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LD061312 [Editorial Report]

Gulf Conflict

Missile, Air Attacks—Two Iranian missiles hit "residential" areas of Baghdad the night of 5 October, causing civilian casualties and damaging buildings, Iraq announced in statements carried by Voice of the Masses radio and INA. Tehran radio said the attacks targeted a military training center, and cited an IRGC warning that Iran will continue its reprisals "even more powerfully and forcefully" if the Iraqis do not stop their "mischiefs." An Iranian military statement reported by IRNA noted that the attack on Baghdad was in reprisal for the recent wave of Iraqi air raids which killed or wounded "hundreds" of Iranian civilians.

The missile strikes followed Iraqi air raids on Larak Island and other Iranian targets in the Gulf, as announced by the Iraqi command in communiques broadcast by Voice of the Masses. "Very large numbers" of aircraft flew "huge distances" to reach Larak, in the Strait of Hormuz, "ridiculing" Iranian defenses and only leaving the area after the Iraqi pilots ascertained they had accurately hit their targets. The communiques also reported Iraqi raids on Lavan Island, Farsi Island, and the Cyrus Island oil field. Lloyds of London subsequently disclosed that up to four tankers used for storing Iranian oil were hit in the Iraqi raid near the Strait of Hormuz, INA noted. The targets were the world's largest tanker, the Liberian *Seawise Giant*, as well as the Cypriot *Shining Star*, the Liberian *World Admiral*, and possibly the Panamanian *Brazil Star*, Lloyds revealed. While AFP said the *Seawise Giant* was not badly damaged, Bahrain shipping sources cited by Radio Monte Carlo reported that a fire on the *Shining Star* was still raging 6 October.

For Iran's part, Tehran radio and IRNA acknowledged the Iraqi raids on Iranian oil installations in the Gulf, but gave no details of what targets were hit. Several workers were killed or wounded and some damage was inflicted on the installations, IRNA noted. The agency also claimed that two Iraqi jets were downed by Iranian antiaircraft fire, but this was denied by an Iraqi spokesman, who told INA that all Iraqi planes returned safely.

In another development, an Iraqi spokesman cited by INA termed as "lies" Iran's reports about successes by Iraqi rebel forces in the Kifri area of Kirkuk Province, and he challenged "Iran's agents" to prove their control of Kifri by making an appearance in or around the town. A communique reported by IRNA claimed that Iraqi "Muslim mujahidin" killed 300 Iraqi soldiers and wounded 500 in the course of their operations in the Kifri area. The mujahidin left Kifri for their bases after destroying buildings and setting fire to military vehicles, the communique added.

Soviet Policy—Responding to reports of Iraqi dissatisfaction with the Soviet stand, Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Vladimir Petrovskiy told Radio Monte Carlo that the USSR "understands the reasons for Iraq's anger," but he denied that the Soviet Union is proposing to link a cease-fire with the formation of an investigative committee. The Soviets seek to implement Resolution 598 comprehensively and completely and to achieve a cease-fire as soon as possible, Petrovskiy indicated. However, he confirmed that the USSR does not agree with U.S. proposals for sanctions against the country that refuses to implement the UN resolution, adding that the current priority should be to give the UN secretary general the opportunity to seek implementation of Resolution 598 through the diplomatic process.

Egypt

Mubarak Reelection—President Husni Mubarak was reelected for a second term in a referendum held on 5 October with 97.12 percent of the vote, the interior minister announced on Cairo radio. A Muslim Brotherhood source cited by the UAE's *Al-Ittihad* disclosed that the movement supported Mubarak's reelection.

Israeli Nuclear Policy—Defense Minister Muhammad 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah warned of the danger posed by Israel's nuclear policy in an interview with the Cairo weekly *Mayu* cited by MENA. Field Marshal Abu Ghazalah called upon the entire world to force Israel "to openly declare its nuclear stand."

Libya-Sudan

Tripoli radio carried the text of a joint Libyan-Sudanese communique released at the end of the Libyan armed forces commander's visit to Sudan. The communique cited "identical views" on Arab unity, Palestinian rights, the Iran-Iraq war, and a number of other issues. On Chad, the communique said both Libya and Sudan desire a reconciliation of Chadian factions in order to achieve unity and added that they also "reject any foreign military presence in the area." Sudanese Prime Minister Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi, in summing up the meetings, affirmed that Sudan "will support Libya in confronting all plots, provocations, and aggressions."

Sudan

Garang Message—Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi received a message from SPLA leader Colonel John Garang, according to a statement published in Khartoum cited by WAKH. In the message, Garang proposed the formation of a national committee on southern issues provided the SPLA is consulted on its formation.

Student Demonstrations—The commissioner of Khartoum issued a decree closing "all academic and technical schools" in the capital until further notice in the wake of 2 days of student demonstrations, Omdurman radio announced.

Jordan

Staff Field Marshal al-Sharif Zayd ibn Shakir, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, received the head of a Soviet military delegation visiting Jordan, Amman radio reported.

Lebanon

The commander of PLO forces in the south said the Palestinian forces deployed east of Sidon will not be withdrawn until the Amal Movement abides by the camps agreement, the clandestine Voice of the Mountain radio announced. The PLO commander asserted that Amal has neither lifted the camps siege nor provided humanitarian aid as stipulated in the 11 September agreement.

Afghanistan

Bakhtar reported that a 5,000-man opposition group laid down its arms in Faryab Province in continuation of the process of "national reconciliation."

Palestinian Affairs

Fatah Revolutionary Council Continues Session

JN051654 Sanaa Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1600 GMT 5 Oct 87

[Text] The Fatah Revolutionary Council has decided to continue its open ordinary session which began on 23 July. The Revolutionary Council resumed its work in Tunis 2 days ago in the presence of Brother Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat], PLO Executive Committee chairman and commander in chief of the Palestinian Revolution Forces, and the PLO Executive Committee members. It discussed a number of issues and developments in the Palestinian arena, Fatah's internal affairs, and the implementation of decisions regarding the Revolutionary Council's working plan.

PLO Central Council Meetings Begin in Tunis

JN052041 Baghdad Voice of the PLO in Arabic 1814 GMT 5 Oct 87

[Text] The PLO Central Council meetings began in Tunis today in the presence of Brother Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] and under the chairmanship of PNC Speaker Shaykh 'Abd al-Hamid al-Sa'ih. The Central Council will discuss a number of topics on its agenda. These include the situation of our Palestinian people inside and outside the occupied homeland and the situation in the Palestinian refugee camps in Lebanon. Developments in the Palestinian arena on Arab, Palestinian, and international levels and the emergency Arab summit scheduled to be held in Amman on 8 November will also be discussed. In addition the proposed international conference for peace in the Middle East will be reviewed.

Our radio correspondent has learned that the PLO Central Council will hear a report from the Fatah Revolutionary Council which ended its meetings in Tunis yesterday. These meetings lasted 3 days.

Abu Iyad on Prospects for USSR-Israel Ties

LD051631 Tunis TAP in Arabic 1158 GMT 5 Oct 87

[Excerpt] Tunis, 5/10/87, TAP—Salah Khalaf-Abu Iyad, member of the Palestine Liberation Movement's (Fatah) Central Committee, ruled out the possibility of the Soviet Union re-establishing diplomatic relations with Israel in the current circumstances.

In a press statement published by the weekly paper *Al-Sabah* issued in Tunis, Abu Iyad stressed that the Palestinian leadership has received assurances from the Soviet Union regarding this matter.

He said the Soviet foreign minister in a meeting with Faruq al-Qaddumi, head of the PLO Political Department, in New York during a side meeting during the UN General Assembly proceedings had said: There will be no diplomatic relations between the Soviet Union and Israel unless Israel agrees to an international peace conference on the Middle East with the participation of a representative of the PLO and until the Soviet Union has made sure that the wheels of the conference are moving and nearing success; that is when the Soviet Union will re-establish relations with Israel. [Passage omitted]

PLO Communique on Amal Attacks on Camps

JN051702 Sanaa Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1600 GMT 5 Oct 87

["Text" of PLO military communique issued on 4 October—place not given]

[Text] Although efforts to implement the agreement to end the camps war and its results are under way, some elements in the Amal Movement fired rockets and machineguns at the Shatila camp from positions around the camp yesterday morning. The indiscriminate shelling continued until noon. Several of our steadfast people were wounded. Some sides in the Amal Movement are continuing their attempts to aggravate the security and military situation in the camps area. These attempts are part of the hostile forces' efforts to undermine the Sidon agreement to serve the Zionist-U.S. plan to expel our people from their camps, divide Lebanon and establish secrarian cantons there, and balkanize the Arab region.

Algeria

Industry, Trade Protocol With Libya Signed

LD041854 Tripoli JANA in English 1710 GMT 4 Oct 87

[Text] Algiers, Al-Tumur [October] 4, *Jamahiriyah News Agency*—A protocol for cooperation and integration in the spheres of heavy and light industry and trade exchange between Great Jamahiriyah and Algeria was signed today in sisterly Algeria.

The protocol was signed by Dr Fathi ibn Shatwan, the secretary of the General People's Committee for Industry, and Zitouni Messaoudi, the member of the Central Committee and minister of light industry in Algeria. Present at the signing ceremony were Sa'ad Mujbir, the secretary of the Libyan Arab Brotherhood Bureau and Abdelkader Hadjar, the ambassador of Algeria to Tripoli.

The protocol of cooperation, signed at the Ministry of Heavy Industry in Algiers, includes a number of accords for the expansion of the industrial infrastructure part of which is the setting up of a factory for the manufacture of private cars in Great Jamahiriyah and small joint units for the production of engines in Algeria.

Also the protocol stipulates for the construction of joint factories to cover the needs of local markets in the two countries and the use of the extra production for export to international markets.

The protocol decrees for giving priority to local products of the two countries and the conducting of technical and economic studies, the setting up of centres for industrial research and the holding of technical and scientific seminars.

The protocol pointed to the firm desire to prepare draft accords setting up joint companies in the spheres of mechanical industries and the study of possibilities to set up joint companies to meet the needs of local markets in the two countries.

On the other hand an accord was signed on trade exchange in various fields.

Libyan Communications Secretary Arrives

LD051404 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1045 GMT 5 Oct 87

[Text] Algiers, 5 Oct (JANA)—Brother Mubarak al-Shamikh, secretary of the General People's Committee for Communications and Transportation in the Great Jamahiriyah, arrived in Algiers yesterday evening on a visit to fraternal Algeria.

Brother Mubarak al-Shamikh was welcomed at Houari Boumedienne Airport by Brother Rachid Benyelles, member of the [FLN] Political Bureau and minister of transportation.

This visit was agreed to by the Higher Joint Committee of the General People's Committee and the Algerian Cabinet during their unitary meetings on the consolidation and development of cooperation between the two countries in all social, cultural, and economic fields. During this visit the Libyan guest will examine the implementation of cooperation agreements between the two countries in the fields of telecommunications and meteorology.

Soviet Deputy Minister, Delegation Depart

LD042311 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 2300 GMT 3 Oct 87

[Text] The Soviet delegation led by first deputy minister of internal affairs [Vasiliy Trushin] left Algiers yesterday [3 October] following a visit to our country of several days. During this visit, the Soviet delegation was received successively by Mohamed Cherif Messaadia, Political Bureau member and official in charge of the Central Committee Permanent Secretariat, and Brigadier Mostefa Chelloufi, the general secretary of the Ministry of National Defense.

The talks dealt with questions relating to bilateral cooperation.

Messaadia Meets With PLO's Al-Wazir, Others

JN301935 Sanaa Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1600 GMT 30 Sep 87

[Text] Brother Abu Jihad [Khalil al-Wazir], deputy commander of the Palestinian Revolution Forces, has met in Algiers with Brother Mohamed Cherif Messaadia, the official in charge of the Algerian FLN Permanent Secretariat.

During the meeting, they discussed the latest developments in the Palestinian arena, particularly the camps war, the current Arab situation, and the possibilities of holding an Arab summit.

The meeting was attended by Brother Sadek Zouaten, the official in charge of liberation movements at the FLN, and Brother Abu al-'Izz, the PLO representative in Algeria.

Receives PFLP Leader Habash

LD041428 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 2300 GMT 3 Oct 87

[Text] Brother Messaadia has received Dr Habash, the general secretary of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine. They reviewed the Palestinian question and other Arab-related issues, particularly those relating to the forthcoming Arab summit. The meeting was attended by Brother Sadek Zouaten, member of the Central Committee Permanent Secretariat in charge of the Council of Friendship and Solidarity.

'Clarification' in French Gas Talks Reported

PM021020 Paris LE MONDE in French 29 Sep 87 p 2

[Frederic Fritscher dispatch: "Madelin's Algiers Talks Provide 'Clarification' on Gas Negotiations"]

[Excerpt] Algiers—French Industry Minister Alain Madelin met in Algiers on Sunday, 27 September, with Algerian Energy Minister Belkacem Nabi, with whom he discussed "the future prospects of Algerian-French gas relations and the current negotiations on revision of liquefied gas prices between Sonatrach and Gaz de France," APS has announced. The meeting provided "an initial clarification of positions," APS says, adding that the two ministers agreed to "give themselves additional time to consider and to meet again in October."

The negotiations between Sonatrach and Gaz de France, which began in July 1986, are supposed to finish by the end of this year and to result in new price setting measures for Algerian gas supplied to France. Nothing has yet been signed, but Gaz de France hopes to obtain more flexibility in the rate of supply and is proposing a price formula that Algeria considers unacceptable.

Once again the discussions between the two companies slid from the strictly political field to a political field that has enlarged this week. Last Thursday and Friday [24-25 September] Algerian Foreign Minister Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi said on a visit to Paris that gas is "the nub of cooperation between France and Algeria." His remarks must have been heeded because 2 days later the French industry minister traveled to Algiers to meet with the energy minister. Negotiations had been at a standstill since 10 September, when the Gaz de France delegation left Algiers because of the deadlock reached after 3 days of negotiations. [passage omitted]

Angolan President dos Santos Ends 1-Day Visit

LD021301 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 2 Oct 87

[Text] Angolan President Jose Eduardo dos Santos left Algiers this morning following a working visit. He was seen off at Houari Boumedienne International Airport by Abdelhamid Brahimi, alternate member of the Political Bureau and prime minister; a number of officials from the government and the party; and members of the Angolan colony in Algiers.

At the airport's VIP lounge Angolan President dos Santos expressed very sincere thanks to President Chadli Bendjedid and the Algerian leadership for the warm welcome accorded him. The Angolan president, as it is already known, arrived in Algiers yesterday and had talks on the situation in southern Africa, as well as issues of bilateral relations with President Chadli Bendjedid.

Chad

Libyan Air Force Overflights Noted 4 Oct

AB051408 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French 1330 GMT 5 Oct 87

[Text] The Libyan Air Force continues to overfly our territory. On Sunday, 4 October 1987, Libyan fighters overflew Wour at 0500 and 0630. At the same time, two (?planes) from the Libyan Air Force overflew Yedri at 0400 and Zouar at 1000.

Egypt

Mubarak Message on Al-Sadat Death Anniversary

NC061023 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0815 GMT 6 Oct 87

["Text" of President Husni Mubarak's message to the Egyptian people on the 6 October anniversary of the late President Muhammad Anwar al-Sadat's death—read by announcer]

[Text] Brother Citizens: On 6 October, when we remember late President Anwar al-Sadat, the hero of war and peace, our hearts overflow with feelings of pride and glory. The history of national struggle records with bright letters that late President Muhammad Anwar al-Sadat made these decisions with rare courage and a firm national will. He made them while Egypt was facing the most fierce challenges, psychological pressures, and the worst propaganda war which sought to fill us with despair, destroy our self-confidence, and push Egypt to the periphery of history.

The decision to wage war was not only an expression of an overwhelming patriotism and an extraordinary courage—characteristics which Muhammad Anwar al-Sadat was known to possess since his early youth and throughout his life—but it was also an expression of Muhammad Anwar al-Sadat's belief in the Egyptian fighter's ability, firmness, and courage to sacrifice himself for the sake of the homeland's liberty. The decision was the result of the detailed and diversified studies and accurate calculations in which the Armed Forces' commands and our scientific and technical organs took part.

Then came the decision for peace. Late President Muhammad Anwar al-Sadat made the decision for peace when we were at the zenith of victory, but not blinded by arrogance or vanity. This decision was made at a time when the entire world recognized that we had achieved a military miracle. This recognition, however, did not make us deviate from the correct view; namely, that we had fought, made sacrifices, and won so that peace would triumph. Muhammad Anwar al-Sadat's dream became a reality. The people's hopes were fulfilled. The land was liberated. The flags of peace, rebuilding, and reconstruction flew high.

On the anniversary of the great leader's death, we remember with all our hearts and minds his glories for his homeland. This rememberance will ensure that we will always adhere to the spirit of October which has restored dignity, made us hold our heads high, opened the way for us to work, and brought hope to see Egypt rise high and to see human rights respected. God's peace and blessings be with you.

Foreign Minister Discusses Talks With Reagan
PM051323 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 26 Sep 87 p 2

[Muhammad Sadiq report on Foreign Minister Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid's statement: "No Egyptian-Jordanian-U.S. Plan To Confront Iran"]

[Text] Washington, *Al-Sharq al-Awsat* Bureau: The Egyptian deputy prime minister and foreign minister, Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, has denied the existence of an Egyptian-Jordanian-U.S. plan to confront the Iranian threat. In a statement to *Al-Sharq al-Awsat* he stressed that there are no regular military forces outside Egypt. He said: Egypt is part of the Arab nation and its security is part of the comprehensive Arab security. From this angle we support the Arab Gulf states' security and stability, since it comprises Egypt's stability. Besides, any harm to the security and stability of these states would affect Egypt's security and stability.

After his meeting the day before yesterday with U.S. President Ronald Reagan and National Security Adviser Frank Carlucci, the Egyptian minister said that what Egypt hopes and advocates is that the Arab brothers meet and agree on their definition of the dangers facing them.

About his meeting with President Reagan and what they discussed, 'Abd al-Majid said: During my meeting with President Reagan, which was attended by Vice President George Bush, I delivered a message to him from President Husni Mubarak. The meeting was an opportunity to talk about Egyptian-U.S. relations, which are characterized by a clear understanding of the situation in the Gulf, Egypt's appreciation of U.S. policy regarding the protection of freedom of navigation in the Gulf, and also President Reagan's appreciation of President Mubarak's policy which is based on Egypt as a moderate power preserving peace and stability in the Middle East. The meeting was also an opportunity to talk about peace initiatives and U.S. eagerness to remain an effective and active partner in those peace initiatives by working toward convening an international conference. We also discussed bilateral relations.

With regard to Egypt's position on developments in the Gulf war and whether it is a confrontation between Iraq and Iran or, in view of the Iranian infiltration behind Arab regimes, much more than this, Minister 'Abd al-Majid said: Since the beginning we have believed that Iran had sought to impose hegemony over the region. First of all, there is no hostility between Iran and us. Iran severed diplomatic relations with Egypt when the shah took refuge there. The important thing is that Iran is trying to spread what it portrays as its own belief and message in Islam. But we are all Muslims and we know Islam and its magnanimity. It is a religion of which we are proud. However, there is a radical difference between us and Iran. This was confirmed by the Mecca incident which caused destruction and loss of life.

He said: Egypt's response to the painful and regrettable Mecca incident was clear. Egyptian anger was also clear regarding what Iran had committed, namely the violation of holy places. We strongly condemned and still condemn these acts. President Mubarak called for an Islamic conference to discuss the matter. This reflects Egypt's position. If the Islamic conference does not discuss matters such as these, just what then does it discuss? Egypt's condemnation was not only official. The incidents were not condemned by the government and officials alone. Indeed, every Egyptian individual condemned them. They were sad and painful incidents.

Dr 'Abd al-Majid also talked about the possibilities and chances of convening an international conference on peace in the Middle East. He said that the possibilities of progress are maturing daily. In this regard he cited what was recently issued by the U.S. Jewish Congress and its call for the convening of an international conference.

He said that all this reflects what is happening inside the United States and pushes the peace process forward. When a call emanates from an organization such as the U.S. Jewish Congress, this should be considered an important matter, since it is unprecedented. We know the extent of this organization's influence inside the United States.

As for Egypt's position on PLO representation in an international conference, 'Abd al-Majid said: Our position on this question is both clear and frank. I would like to say that those who will represent the Palestinian people at any conference would be those the PLO names. Other quarters must not interfere in this matter. The PLO has the right to name its representatives who will be delegated to talk on behalf of the Palestinian people. This is Egypt's position. In this direction Egypt has always demanded that there should be cooperation between the PLO and Jordan.

Regarding Egyptian popular reaction and its response to the economic reform program, which the Egyptian Government is implementing under IMF instructions, especially insofar as measures implemented so far have led to a decrease in the value of the Egyptian pound and a rise in commodity prices, he said: There has been a good response and understanding on the part of the people. As for amending the exchange rate of the pound, I would like to say that the black market does not exist in Egypt today. It has vanished completely. Those Egyptians who

are in possession of foreign currencies exchange them on the basis of the official rate, which is an attractive one. Reform involves risks, but we have overcome them and succeeded in our plans.

He said: As for the position of Congressional leaders and other officials with whom I met regarding reform measures, they appreciated Egypt's position and policy whether regarding the Gulf war or economic reform. As for whether he discussed with President Reagan or others the issue of President Mubarak's visit to Washington, which has been reported on many occasions, he said: I did not discuss the subject of the president's visit. No date has been set for it.

Algeria Allegedly Mediating For POW's in Iran

JN052010 Kuwait AL-WATAN in Arabic
4 Oct 87 pp 1, 6

[Text] Cairo—Algeria is currently mediating between Egypt and Iran for the release of the Egyptian prisoners of war in Iranian prisons.

Citing an Egyptian Foreign Ministry source, *Al-Watan* has learned that Algeria received a list of names of a large number of Egyptians about 3 weeks ago. *Al-Watan* also learned that President Husni Mubarak and President Chadli Bendjedid discussed this mediation when they met in Addis Ababa during the African summit conference.

The same source added that an Egyptian official left for Algeria for this purpose. The source refused to reveal the name of the official but stressed that he is highly placed.

France had previously mediated between Egypt and Iran. The French mediation stopped following the sudden collapse of relations between the two countries. Sudanese Prime Minister Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi also played an outstanding role in this regard.

Reports indicated earlier that Iran demanded that Egypt stop its military support for Iraq in return for the release of the Egyptian prisoners of war, a matter which the Egyptian political leadership rejected. This resulted in the failure of all international efforts.

Abu Ghazalah Warns of Israeli Nuclear Strategy

NC051105 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1015 GMT 5 Oct 87

[Text] Cairo, 5 Oct (MENA)—Field Marshal Muhammad 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah, deputy prime minister and minister of defense and war production, has warned of the danger posed by Israel's nuclear policy. He said that this policy is pushing the region and the world toward new and dangerous horizons with unknown dimensions.

In an interview published today by the Cairo weekly magazine *Mayu*, Field Marshal Abu Ghazalah called upon the entire world to force Israel to declare its nuclear stand openly. He described Israel's nuclear strategy as "the nuclear vagueness strategy," in view of its failure to sign the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons. He noted that neither Israel nor its friends have declared how many such weapons it possesses, the composition of this destructive force, and the nature of its nuclear strategy.

He added that this vagueness completely complicates matters, leaves the door open to military and strategic interpretations, and pushes the region to dangerous horizons. He said: We recall that a single explosion at the Chernobyl nuclear reactor led to catastrophes in the Soviet Union, Europe, and some areas of Asia.

Field Marshal 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah warned against the continuation of the Gulf war between Iraq and Iran. He said that the war no longer has a goal except to continue fighting. He criticized Iran's rejection of international efforts to stop the fighting. The field marshal said: The continuing stubborness to fight opens the door wide for pushing the entire region into an abyss of darkness and the unknown. Abu Ghazalah added that this war has turned from one of military victories for one party over the other into one of military errors. He warned that this crazy war could turn into a military catastrophe should there be a single military error that goes beyond the ability of local and international parties to contain. He went on to say: The world must act now and force the intransigent party to stop fighting immediately. Otherwise, the coming fire will burn too many.

Regarding the recent joint Egyptian-U.S. military maneuvers, Field Marshal Abu Ghazalah stressed that maneuvers with the United States or any other country are carried out on the basis of total Egyptian planning. Explaining this, he said: We initially establish the type of expertise we want to gain and on that basis determine the type and size of forces we will allow to participate with us. We also set the time, venue, and duration of the maneuvers. At the same time, the other party, not us, bears all of the material burdens or expenditures of these maneuvers.

He denounced the attempts to give these maneuvers political significance. Abu Ghazalah said: We are quite willing to hold joint maneuvers with any party that gives us weapons and from which we can derive military benefits.

Concluding his interview, Field Marshal Abu Ghazalah summarized the Egyptian Armed Forces' strategy as follows: To be more capable militarily; to be more efficient defensivily and offensively; and to be more clever in utilizing a smaller-sized armed force to deter any aggressor.

Soviet Envoy Requests Publication of Statement

PM031411 Cairo AL-WAFD in Arabic
26 Sep 87 pp 1, 6

[Unattributed report: "Clarification From the Soviet Ambassador and Frank Comments From *Al-Wafd*"]

[Text] *Al-Wafd* has received the following statement from the Soviet Ambassador in Cairo, Mr Zhuravlev. We are eager to publish the statement in full, although most, or probably all, of it does not answer the specific points raised by *Al-Wafd*'s chief editor, Mustafa Shardi, in his commentary on the Soviet ambassador's statement published Wednesday [23 September], which the ambassador has not refuted. Instead he has issued this statement to calm the atmosphere in the wake of the comments. We are publishing the statement and commenting on it:

"In view of some journalists' misunderstanding of the assessments I raised during the news conference held 22 September regarding Soviet-Egyptian relations, kindly publish the following statement in your paper:

"The process of normalizing and improving Egyptian-Soviet relations has continued constantly during recent years. This development reflects the feelings of truthful friendship and love which the Soviet and Egyptian peoples feel toward each other, as well as endeavors by both leaderships to restore active and progressive relations in all fields.

"Great strides have been made in these years. An exchange of views on a wide range of international and regional issues useful to both sides has become normal practice. The leaders of the two countries, CPSU Central Committee General Secretary Gorbachev and President Mubarak, regularly exchange messages. We have succeeded in resolving the difficult problem of financial obligations and debts. This satisfies both sides. The Soviet Union views the current economic situation in the Arab Republic of Egypt with understanding and awareness. We believe that suitable channels have been opened for the continuation and development of trade exchange and economic cooperation between the two countries. The Soviet Union is ready to participate both economically and technologically in implementing the important projects under Egypt's Second 5-Year Plan. Potential feasible contracts in the field of economic cooperation between the two sides are currently being studied and discussed. So far, contracts valuing more than 100 million dollars have been signed in 1987, double the value last year. On many occasions the Egyptian press has rightly published information concerning talk about Soviet establishments' participation in rebuilding, renewing, modernizing, and expanding industrial projects set up with the Soviet Union's help. The two sides are preparing a 'new agreement on economic and technological cooperation.'

"As for the volume of trade between the Soviet Union and the Arab Republic of Egypt, as I said during the press conference, it reached 650 million pounds sterling in 1986. We will continue to develop trade for the prosperity of both countries. This will be manifested in long-term trade exchange agreements to be signed in November this year.

"I can also add that a substantial activation has occured in our cultural, scientific, and sports contacts. The exchange of trade union and youth delegations, as well as delegations from social organizations, has resumed. The Soviet Union has, with great satisfaction, received the resumption of the Egyptian-Soviet Friendship Association's activities under Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs. In short, our relations are developing rapidly. This matter was recorded and stressed during talks between both countries' foreign ministers, Shevardnadze and 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, in New York 22 September. These relations are based, as they were in the past, on the principles of equality and mutual respect and interest, as well as noninterference in each country's internal affairs. As for the extent of development, both sides are sparing no efforts to ensure rapid development. We have no doubt that Soviet-Egyptian relations will play their part in developing international cooperation and upholding peace.

"With my sincere respect, "Zhuravlev, ambassador of the Soviet Union. 24 September 1987"

Al-Wafd comments:

We would like first to stress the Al-Wafd Party's sincere principles and its wish to establish strong and balanced friendly relations between Egypt and all states of the world, the two superpowers in particular.

We would like also to express our satisfaction with what has been mentioned in the statement issued by the Soviet ambassador in Cairo regarding developments for the better in relations between Cairo and Moscow. We fully support the continuation of this development and thank the Soviet Union for its readiness to participate both economically and technologically in implementing important projects in Egypt. We extend our hand of friendship and love to every friendly state that provides unconditional support without harming the independence of the Egyptian will.

But the Soviet ambassador did not mention anything regarding the point which *Al-Wafd* raised, namely that the government announced a huge figure representing the volume of dealings between the two countries whereas the ambassador stated a figure much lower than the government's figure!

And instead of providing clarification, the Soviet ambassador's statement confused us further by saying precisely: To date, contracts exceeding 100 million dollars have been signed in 1987, double those last year. This sentence means that the ambassador adheres to the fact that the volume of dealings between Egypt and the Soviet Union last year did not exceed 50 million dollars. Then the ambassador says this exactly in his reply: "The volume of trade between the Soviet Union and Egypt last year reached 650 million pounds sterling"! However, what we are chiefly concerned with is the fact that the

statement [to *Al-Wafd*] indicates that the Soviet ambassador's statements are not designed to embarrass the Egyptian Government, which is a cordial step and a positive sign. Furthermore, the statement confirms that relations are continuing to improve. This also is in line with what we are aiming for, namely, good relations with all powers. Although the ambassador announced the postponement of some important visits between Moscow and Cairo, we hope that they will take place in the near future.

Further on Energy Protocol Signed With China

NC041300 Cairo MENA in English 1207 GMT 4 Oct 87

[Text] Cairo, Oct 4 (MENA)—This morning Egypt and China signed a protocol on technical cooperation in the domains of electricity and non-conventional energy.

The protocol which defines the facets of cooperation next year provides for cooperation between the two countries in the use of nuclear energy for electricity generating purposes and the training of Egyptian technicians in Chinese nuclear-powered electricity generating plants. The new protocol also provides for the training of Chinese workers in the hydropower electricity generating plants in Egypt and the training of Egyptian workers in Chinese coal-powered plants.

Under the terms of the protocol, the two countries will exchange data and technical research in the domains of new and renewable energy in Egyptian rural areas and will cooperate in the exploitation of waste in organic gas for use in heating and lighting, as well as in the manufacture of solar heaters.

The protocol underlined that cooperation between the two countries is an example to be copied in international relations. The Egyptian and Chinese sides agreed on holding the next meetings of the joint Egyptian-Chinese committee in Beijing in October next year.

The protocol was signed by Mahir Abazah, minister of electricity and energy engineering and his Chinese counterpart Qian Zhengying, who is currently on a visit to Egypt.

PRC Delegation Departs

NC042012 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1936 GMT 4 Oct 87

[Text] Cairo, 4 Oct (MENA)—Qian Zhengying, Chinese minister of electric power and her accompanying delegation left Cairo for home tonight concluding a 4-day visit to Egypt during which she attended the meetings of the joint Egyptian-Chinese Committee on Energy.

In Cairo today the Chinese minister signed a protocol for technical cooperation between Egypt and China, which lays out how the two countries will cooperate in the field of energy next year.

Libya

Al-Qadhdhafi, Nasirite Leader Tour Plant

LD052202 Tripoli Television Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 5 Oct 87

[Text] The brother leader of the revolution, who is the supreme commander of the Libyan Arab Armed Forces, today opened an industrial complex for manufacturing small arms ammunition. The brother leader toured sections of the factory and acquainted himself with the production process. The inauguration was attended by heads of the Libyan Arab Armed Forces staff; a number of Armed Forces officers; and Ma'ruf Sa'd, secretary of the Popular Nasirite Movement in Lebanon.

Sudan

Minutes of Joint Agreement With Libya Signed

JN301914 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1755 GMT 30 Sep 87

[Text] Khartoum, 30 Sep (SUNA)—The minutes of the joint agreement on economic, technical, and social cooperation were signed by Sudan and the Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah today at the conclusion of meetings between the two sides that began on 28 September.

Mubarak al-Shamikh, secretary of the General People's Committee for Communication and Transportation and head of Libya's delegation to the talks, stated the agreement stipulates there will be an exchange of activities between the two states in the fields of trade, culture, communication and transportation, and oil.

The Libyan secretary added that a Sudanese ministerial delegation will visit Libya to further discuss the topics discussed in the joint meetings.

Dr Ibrahim Hasan 'Abd al-Jalil, minister of commerce, cooperation, and supply, pointed out the bilateral agreement stipulates that the volume of the bilateral trade exchange will be increased from $30 million to $50 million. He added that the agreement further states that a joint committee will meet every 6 months to follow up the agreement's implementation. He then said that a Sudanese delegation to be headed by the Ministry of Commerce's under secretary will depart for Libya shortly to hold talks with the Libyan side on bilateral banking cooperation.

Libyan Military Official Continues Visit

Meets With Council Member

JN011530 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1440 GMT 1 Oct 87

[Text] Khartoum, 1 Oct (SUNA)—State Council member Mirghani al-Nasri has met with Brigadier General Abu Bakr Yunis Jabir, commander in chief of the Libyan

Arab Armed Forces. The two men discussed the fraternal and bilateral relations between Sudan and the Jamahiriyah in the political and economic fields.

Al-Nasri stated that during their meeting they agreed to enhance and promote these relations to serve the common interests of the two fraternal peoples. He added that the talks dealt with the Middle East situation and the need to restore Arab solidarity, that is, to see that all Arab states shoulder their responsibilities in closing Arab ranks in the face of foreign hegemonic strategies designed for the region.

At Reception With Al-Mahdi

EA031245 Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 2 Oct 87

[Text] Prime Minister Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi, president of the Al-Ummah Party, has affirmed that as Sudan conducts the Islamic revival experiment, it is trying to build Islam in the context of the age and of the rights of citizenship guaranteed regardless of race, religion, or color to all Sudanese. His excellency said this in a speech during a reception last evening given by the Al-Ansar element and the Al-Ummah Party at the Al-Imam al-Mahdi Dome to mark the visit to Sudan by Colonel Abu Bakr Yunis Jabir, member of the historic Libyan leadership.

In his speech, Al-Sadiq (?explained) the forms of support being provided to Sudan by the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah. He pointed out that Sudan is in accord with the Jamahiriyah on such matters as political, social, and economic freedoms, historical authenticity, and [word indistinct] in the internal spheres. Sudan is also in agreement with the Jamahiriyah concerning the Islamic and Arab revival, African liberation, freedom, and human brotherhood in the external sphere.

Speaks at Reception

LD041921 Tripoli JANA in English 1449 GMT 4 Oct 87

[Text] Khartoum, Al-Tumur [October] 4, *Jamahiriyah News Agency*—The Sudanese National Unionist Party held a reception, last Friday [2 October] in honour of Colonel Abu Bakr Yunis Jabir, the commander in chief of the Libyan Arab Armed Forces, and the delegation in his company.

Col Abu Bakr Yunis Jabir made a speech at the reception saluting the Sudanese popular masses and asserting the unity of the Arab people in Sudan.

He said: We have to learn the lesson from what took place in Lebanon and to the Palestinian revolution. He called for the need of closing ranks amongst the Arab nation and its unity so as to consolidate its resistance against the enemy.

Col Abu Bakr Yunis Jabir pointed to the importance of unity of efforts of all parties and political forces in Sudan to rid the country of backwardness and effectively participate in the process of repulsing the dangers threatening the Arab nation.

On his part Tighour al-Shaib [name as received], the secretary general of the Sudan National Unionist Party addressed the reception lauding the great Al-Fatih revolution and its vigorous role in defence of the Arab causes.

Tighour al-Shaib expressed appreciation to the assistance and support provided by the Libyan Arab people to their brothers in Sudan during their struggle against the rule of stooge Numayri.

Ahmad Zayn al-Abidin, the president of the National Unionist Party made speech on the occasion welcoming Col Abu Bakr Yunis Jabir.

He said: We will never forget the cordiality and heroism we saw in our brother Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi.

He added: Brother Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi is a democratic, frank and courageous man who speaks without any reservation about justice and what is right and he is ready to participate us in anything our duty and the duty of the Arab nation to stand on the side of the Libyan Arab people in confronting the imperialist challenges aimed at this steadfast fortress which is confronting courageously and firmly Zionist and imperialist plots. [Sentence as received]

Present at the reception were a number of party leaders of Sudanese parties and government officials and a number of heads of diplomatic mission accredited to Khartoum in addition to crowds of Sudanese popular masses.

On Khartoum Ties, Chad

JN042000 Doha QNA in Arabic 1925 GMT 4 Oct 87

[Text] Khartoum, 4 Oct (QNA)—Colonel Abu Bakr Yunis Jabir, commander in chief of the Libyan Arab Armed Forces, has stated that he agreed with Sudanese officials to implement all agreements signed between the two countries. He noted that in the past, difficulties hampered the implementation of these agreements. Col Jabir, who is currently visiting Sudan, said it was agreed to supply Sudan with 600,000 tonnes of Libyan oil over a period of 1 year, increase trade between the two countries to a level of $100 million, and provide Libyan assistance to Sudan to resolve its communications crisis. The two sides also discussed joint programs in the industrial and agricultural fields and establishing a Libyan-Sudanese holding company to implement development projects in various spheres.

In a statement to the Sudanese newspaper *Al-Siyasah* published today, he noted that there are no problems between Libya and Chad. He said he hopes the Chadian

problem will be resolved within the framework of national accord. At the same time he called for the withdrawal of the French military presence, and also that of others, from Chadian territory. He said this is the will of the Arab people and the African peoples who are threatened by this presence. In his statement transmitted by SUNA, Col Jabir said that both Iraq and Iran welcomed Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi's initiative to end the war between them.

Departs; Al-Mahdi Comments

JN051620 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1410 GMT 5 Oct 87

[Text] Khartoum, 5 Oct (SUNA)—Colonel Abu Bakr Yunis Jabir, member of the historic leadership of the Libyan 1 September Revolution, departed for home following a week-long visit to Sudan. During his visit, he held talks with the chairman and members of the State Council and the prime minister. His talks dealt with bolstering bilateral relations in the economic, cultural, and transportation fields, while he also met with some key political figures.

In a press statement today, Prime Minister Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi said that this visit confirmed the strong relations between the two peoples. Al-Mahdi pointed out that Col Abu Bakr Yunis Jabir's visit falls within the framework of visits by Libyan officials. These began with the visit of Libyan leader Al-Qadhdhafi and [second-ranking Libyan leader] Major Jallud. Al-Mahdi said that these visits confirm the firm relations between Sudan and the historic leadership of the Libyan 1 September Revolution.

Col Abu Bakr Yunis Jabir was seen off at Khartoum Airport by Dr 'Ali Hasan Taj al-Din, member of the State Council; Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi; General Fawzi Ahmad al-Fadil, commander in chief of the Armed Forces; a number of ministers and senior officials; and Jum'ah al-Fazzani, secretary of the Arab Libyan Brotherhood Bureau [as received] in Khartoum.

Joint Communique With Libya Issued 5 Oct

NC060937 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 0600 GMT 6 Oct 87

["Text" of Libyan-Sudanese joint communique on the visit to Sudan by Colonel Abu Bakr Yunis Jabir, commander in chief of the Libyan Arab Armed Forces, issued on 5 October]

[Text] As a confirmation of the historic and fraternal ties linking the brotherly peoples of Sudan and Libya, which are fused in the crucible of Arab, Islamic, and African affiliation, and as an assertion of their commitment to one destiny, Colonel Abu Bakr Yunis Jabir, commander in chief of the Libyan Arab Armed Forces, and the high-ranking delegation accompanying him, paid a fraternal visit to the Sudanese Republic in response to an official invitation by Brother Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi, prime minister and minister of defense.

Col Abu Bakr Yunis Jabir and the accompanying delegation were accorded an official and popular welcome which expressed the warm feelings, the deep-rooted ties, and the distinctive relations between the Sudanese people and the Libyan Arab people. The reception also expressed the Sudanese people's esteem for and appreciation of the great militant role played by the 1 September revolution in support of national struggles. This is particularly true of the Sudanese people's struggle against dictatorship until their will triumphed and they once again assumed their normal role in support of their Arab nation's struggle and the struggle of the African peoples. The welcome accorded to Col Abu Bakr Yunis Jabir by the chairman and members of the State Council, the prime minister, and the leadership and senior officers of the people's armed forces, was on the same level.

In this warm atmosphere of mutual goodwill and feelings, the two countries' delegations held talks on various issues of mutual concern. This was in order to strengthen relations between the two brotherly peoples and to promote them in a manner that would realize both peoples' aspiration for unity and progress.

The two sides also discussed international political issues of concern to both countries on Arab and African matters. The discussion revealed that the views of each side are identical. In particular:

1. The two sides assert their belief in the unity of the Arab nation as a tool of the Arab masses for confronting various, current, imperialist conspiracies against the Arab homeland.

The two sides also assert their belief in the importance of joint efforts in bringing about this unity. They believe that the best approach for realizing such a unity is for the Arab countries to achieve food and economic security. Both sides stress that such security will preserve their freedom, dignity, and independent decision making.

In this context, the Sudanese side was informed of the Arab union plan proposed by Brother Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, and has promised to consider the plan in accordance with constitutional procedures;

2. The two sides assert their belief in the Palestinian peoples' historic and legitimate right to their land, Palestine, and the legitimacy of their armed revolutionary struggle to return to their land and build their own state under the leadership of the PLO. The two countries reject all attempts to impose submissive solutions on the Palestinians;

3. The two sides emphasize the need to redouble Arab and Islamic efforts to end the Gulf war. Both sides believe that the war only serves to weaken the two Muslim peoples of Iran and Iraq in all aspects; deplete resources which should have been utilized in backing the Palestinian peoples' struggle and defending the region against the Zionist threat; and distract attention from the essential issue, namely the usurpation of Palestine. This war also diverts the region's attention from its basic issues of liberation, unity, and development.

The two sides support official and popular Arab and Islamic initiatives, as well as international initiatives, to end the causes and effects of the Gulf war through peaceful means.

In this regard, the two countries support the two peaceful initiatives to end this war undertaken by Brother Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the great 1 September revolution, and Sudanese Prime Minister Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi;

4. The two sides strongly resist the various forms of modern imperialism and assert solidarity in warding off their military, economic, and media threats, in keeping with both countries' commitments to the principles of the Nonaligned Movement and international charters;

5. During a discussion of the developments concerning the Chadian issue, it became apparent to both sides that they:

a. Desire a national reconciliation of the Chadian factions in order to bring about fraternal Chad's unity, stability, and development.

b. They desire good, neighborly relations between them and fraternal Chad. In this regard, both sides support all the initiatives designed to end violence in the area under OAU supervision.

c. They also reject any foreign military presence in the area and will seek to end it through understanding and cooperation via the OAU;

6. The two sides affirm their support for the struggle of the South African and Namibian peoples, and appeal to the peoples of the world to support this struggle until the racist regime is ended and the independence of the peoples of southern Africa is achieved. In this regard, the two sides denounce the racist aggressions against the peoples of Angola and Mozambique and support the right of these peoples to live in peace under whatever political system they choose;

7. The two sides will strive to strengthen the fraternal ties between their two peoples and the African peoples. They affirm their desire to strengthen the OAU's effectiveness, so as to enable it to achieve the stability, security, and unity of the peoples of the African continent, and to deal with the existing problems in a manner that will safeguard the independence of its peoples, and promote and strengthen the economic ties and brotherly relations among them. In this regard, the two sides affirm their interest in keeping the Red Sea, Horn of Africa, and Mediterranean outside the spheres of international conflict.

At the conclusion of these meetings, the two sides stated the following:

A. Col Abu Bakr Yunis Jabir, commander in chief of the Libyan Arab Armed Forces, expressed his admiration for the Sudanese people's struggle, their determination to maintain their country's unity and freedom, and their determination to develop and prosper. He expressed the Great Jamahiriyah's readiness to provide necessary resources to contribute to Sudan's stability and unity and help achieve progress through joint action. He wished the Sudanese people stability and prosperity.

B. Brother Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi, the prime minister and defense minister, expressed the Sudanese people's profound appreciation for the Jamahiriyah's support during their ordeal to achieve freedom. He affirmed that Sudan will support the Libyan Arab people in confronting all plots, provocations, and aggressions. Brother Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi also expressed the Sudanese people's satisfaction with the Libyan Arab policy to create an atmosphere conducive to enhancing Arab unity and cohesion. Brother Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi expressed the Sudanese people's admiration for the cultural achievements attained by the Great Jamahiriyah's people in the political, economic, and social spheres. These constitute an asset for the entire Arab nation, the African and Islamic nations, and all peoples struggling for their freedom and dignity.

Issued in Khartoum on 12 Safar 1397, following the death of the Prophet Muhammad, corresponding to 5 Al-Tumur [October] 1987.

Kuwait

Minister Addresses Bordeaux Meet on Gulf

LD051542 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1154 GMT 5 Oct 87

[Excerpts] Bordeaux, 5 Oct (KUNA)—Minister of Information Shaykh Nasir Muhammad al-Ahmad today called on the European countries to declare a ban on arms sales to Iran as a first step that might push the international community as a whole to work for ending the Iran-Iraq war.

Shaykh Nasir expressed his regret at the failure of all efforts and endeavors so far attempted to end the continuing war between the two Muslim countries that has continued for 7 years. He reminded his audience of Kuwait's stand toward this war since it began, a war Kuwait sees as destructive and one that could destroy both sides.

Here follows the speech delivered by Shaykh Nasir at the opening of the roundtable seminar organized by the Paris-based International Academy of Diplomacy, the mayor of Bordeaux, and the University of Bordeaux:

It is my pleasure to be among you, honorable ladies and gentlemen, to discuss an important and critical subject. Its importance is not limited to the security of the Gulf but goes beyond that to include the security of the entire international community. This subject is the war and security in the Gulf. [passage omitted]

Gentlemen, you no doubt know that the Iran-Iraq was has now reached a critical and dangerous level and that its aftereffects have extended beyond the region's confines to become the most important cause and prime concern of the entire world.

Gentlemen, I would like to remind you of Kuwait's stand on this war since it began. Our opinion has always been that it is a destructive war, the nature of which would destroy the two Muslim neighbors, Iraq and Iran, by impeding their social and economic development as well as those of their neighboring states. It also provides an opportunity for foreign intervention, which we have always tried to prevent from happening. This was the voice of reason rising a few miles away from the blazing war. Kuwait remained faithful to its reasonable stand and defended it at all international and regional forums.

But the war has continued, and its flame remains ignited. Indeed, it has expanded to include ships and oil tankers loaded with oil—one of the most important economic commodities. The world then began to realize that the flame blazing in the Gulf might eventually extend its havoc to the remotest parts of the world.

Kuwait always held a clear view of these tragic developments. This was first expressed by Shaykh Sa'd 'Abdallah al-Salim al-Sabah, the prime minister and heir apparent, at a large information meeting which some of the brothers working in the information field may have attended last July. [passage omitted]

What Shaykh Sa'd 'Abdallah al-Salim al-Sabah said was reiterated by Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir, the deputy prime minister and foreign minister, in his speech to the largest possible international gathering, namely, the United Nations General Assembly. [passage omitted]

Honorable brothers, may I seize this good opportunity to address the following call to you from this scientific platform, one that respects reason and venerates man and knows the effects of stability on civilization: The crisis is worsening and security in the Gulf is increasingly deteriorating. The need for international efforts to protect the world's interests has become more important today than at any time in the past, because this danger looms over the heads of all.

If the UN Security Council has given the Iranian side a grace period to accept the cease-fire resolution and has deferred the decision to ban arm sales to Iran, pressure on the part of Europe could take the initiative and declare on its own part a halt to arms sales. This measure might then perhaps prompt the entire international community to rush to stop this unjustifiable and irrational bloodshed.

Please accept my greetings and thank you for your attention.

PDRY

Political Bureau Views Al-'Attas Sanaa Visit

EA051721 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1345 GMT 5 Oct 87

[Text] Aden, 5 Oct—The YSP Political Bureau held its regular meeting this morning under the chairmanship of Comrade Salim Salih Muhammad, assistant secretary general of the Central Committee. The Bureau acquainted itself with the meeting's agenda, which included a report on implementing the Political Bureau's resolutions adopted in 1986 on oil and mineral prospecting operations. The Bureau highly appreciated their implementation and urged the relevant authorities to intensify efforts to improve the level of work in this vital field of our national economy.

The Bureau also studied and confirmed the draft of the plans of central party leading institutions for 1988's basic trends, and entrusted the party, governmental, and mass organs with following the draft guidelines in preparing their individual plans for 1988.

The Political Bureau also heard a report from Comrade Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas, member of the Political Bureau and chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium, on our country's participation in the ceremonies marking the 25th anniversary of the 26 September Revolution [in North Yemen]; and on the meetings he held with officials in the northern part of the homeland, led by Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the Republic, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, and secretary general of the General People's Congress. He also expressed his satisfaction with those meetings and stressed the importance of continuing the joint efforts with brothers in the northern part of the homeland's leadership. These efforts should be conducted in a manner that serves the great objective of the Yemeni people, represented in the achievement of Yemeni unity through peaceful and democratic means.

Defense Minister Meets Ethiopian Officials

EA031258 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 2030 GMT 1 Oct 87

[Text] Brother Colonel Salih 'Ubayd Ahmad, candidate member of the Political Bureau and defense minister, this morning received in his office an Ethiopian military delegation led by General Ahma Desta, candidate member of the Workers Party of Ethiopia Central Committee and commander of Ethiopia's Air Force and air defense. After welcoming the visiting military delegates, the brother defense minister exchanged views with them on matters of joint interest to the two friendly peoples. He praised the development of the firm, militant relationship based on the joint principles and aims of the Yemeni and Ethiopian revolutions.

For his part, the comrade leader of the Ethiopian military delegation expressed on his comrades' behalf deep gratitude for the friendly reception accorded them during their visit. He stressed the profundity of the historical relationship linking the two friendly peoples and armies and their continued readiness to strengthen the militant relationship between the Ethiopian Armed Forces and the PDRY Armed Forces.

The meeting was attended on the Democratic Yemeni side by Brother Major 'Ali Muthanna Hadi, commander of the Air Force and Air Defense, and by members of the military delegation on the Ethiopian side.

Saudi Arabia

King Fahd Reaffirms Will To Defend Homeland

LD052031 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1720 GMT 5 Oct 87

[Text] Jeddah, 5 Oct (SPA)—King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Sa'ud, the custodian of the two holy mosques, presided over the Council of Ministers meeting held at Al-Salam Palace this afternoon on Monday, 5 October 1987.

Following the meeting, His Highness 'Ali al-Sha'ir, the minister of information, told SPA that, in the light of the political and information reports submitted to the Prime Minister's Office, the Council reviewed the latest political, security, and economic developments in the Arab and international arenas. It also discussed possible consequences of these developments on the basis of available information.

His majesty the king also discussed his assessment of the current situation in a comprehensive analysis of various aspects of outstanding Arab issues. In this respect the king, may God protect him, informed the Council on the nature of the talks he held with his brother, His Majesty King Husayn, monarch of Jordan, in the context of the consultations and efforts taking place for convening an emergency Arab summit in the Jordanian capital. His majesty the king stressed the conformity of opinions and viewpoints between the two countries on all matters covered by the talks.

Al-Sha'ir added: Moreover, the custodian of the two holy mosques discussed both the role assumed by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in reconciling Arab leaders to achieve the rapprochement hoped for concerning issues pertaining to the interests of the Arab nation, as well as results achieved by efforts made in this direction.

The king, may God protect him, stated: This country is accustomed to adhering to its resolutions. It is also accustomed to choosing peaceful and measured words to broadcast from its media and to describing facts with all objectivity, free from any extravagance or exaggeration. Indeed, we do not harbor any hostility toward anyone, nor do we try to provoke others no matter how strained our relations with them become. This is because Islam's teachings order us to encourage what is good. On this basis, we always strive to avoid evil in every possible way. However, if we have no choice, as I have previously stated on many occasions, we will not hesitate one second in defending our homeland, its sanctity, and sovereignty with all the energy and capabilities that we possess...We must be aware of everything that happens around us, and we are convinced that God is with us and will help us as long as we stand by what is right, let Islam triumph, and defend faith, especially since God has entrusted us with serving the two holy mosques and honored us with this great Islamic duty.

At the end of his statement, Al-Sha'ir concluded: Afterwards, the custodian of the two holy mosques discussed with the Council some local affairs in various industrial, agricultural, and educational fields on which the Council issued the necessary resolutions.

Yemen Arab Republic

Prime Minister Meets Estonian Minister

JN011342 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic
1200 GMT 1 Oct 87

[Text] Brother 'Abd al-'Aziz 'Abd al-Ghani, prime minister and Standing Committee member, today received Arnold Gren, Estonian SSR foreign minister and head of the delegation of the Soviet Committee for the Defense of Peace and the Soviet Committee for Solidarity with Asian and African Countries currently visiting our country. During their meeting, they discussed a number of issues pertaining to peace and security for the world's peoples. They also discussed bilateral relations.

The meeting was attended by Veniamin Popov, the USSR ambassador in Sanaa.

Prime Minister Receives DFLP's Hawatimah

JN052121 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic
1700 GMT 5 Oct 87

[Text] Brother 'Abd al-'Aziz 'Abd al-Ghani, prime minister and member of the Standing Committee, today at noon received Brother Nayif Hawatimah, DFLP secretary general. Hawatimah attended our people's celebrations of the Yemeni revolution's silver jubilee, the 25th anniversary of the immortal 26 September Revolution.

During the meeting, they discussed relations between the Yemeni and the Palestinian revolutions.

Saddam Chairs Meeting on 'Aziz UN Talks

JN051209 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1115 GMT 5 Oct 87

[Text] Baghdad, 5 Oct (INA)—President Saddam Husayn has presided over a Cabinet meeting at which Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, briefed the Cabinet on his contacts and talks in New York on implementing Security Council Resolution No 598. The Iraqi delegation affirmed in these contacts and talks Iraq's welcome of the resolution and its readiness to implement it with good will. The Iraqi delegation also affirmed its categorical rejection of any attempt to dismember the resolution or change the sequence of its implementation by any side.

The conferees also discussed topics on the agenda and took the necessary measures.

The meeting was attended by 'Izzat Ibrahim, vice chairman of the RCC; Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member and first deputy prime minister; the RCC members; the comrade members of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party Regional Command; the chief of the Presidential Office; the ministers; and a number of officials.

Gulf Operations, Air Strikes Continue

Further on Denied Claims

JN051303 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1226 GMT 5 Oct 87

[Text] Baghdad, 5 Oct (INA)—An Iraqi military spokesman has refuted Tehran radio claims concerning operations occurring in the city of Kifri and [Iranian] control of the Kirkuk-Baghdad-Khanaqin Road. In a statement to INA, the Iraqi military spokesman said these claims are not only lies but also reveal the Iranians' blatant ignorance of geography.

He said the operation known as Zafar-2, about which Iran's radio interrupted its broadcast to discuss with extreme stupidity and silliness, is a false operation. The Iraqi military spokesman asserted that Kifri is there and that newsmen can visit it. The military spokesman challenged Iran's agents to prove their control of Kifri or of the heights around it, and to make an appearance in them. He stated: If any Iranian official wishes to claim control of this city, then let him come to it.

The Iraqi military spokesman ridiculed the Iranian claims by asserting that the Kirkuk-Tikrit-Khanaqin Road, which the Iranian news media claimed had been brought under [Iranian] control, never existed. He said all that has been said in this context clearly shows that the Iranian Government is unable to achieve anything in the ground war according to its wishes. That government was thus accordingly forced to fabricate imaginary victories.

Concluding his statement, the military spokesman questioned the Iranian media concerning the fate of the Val-Fajr, Karbala', and Nasr operations and also about the fate of the hundreds of kilometers Iran claimed to have controlled.

Newsmen Invited to Kifri

JN051544 Baghdad INA in English 1532 GMT 5 Oct 87

[Text] Baghdad, Oct 5, INA—An Iraqi military spokesman has scoffed at Iranian enemy allegations on "fighting" in the northern Iraqi town of Kifri describing them as sheer lies. Iraq, the spokesman said, would accept newsmen nominated by the Iranian regime to be sent to the area and would guarantee their safety and pay their expenses.

Larak, Lavan Islands Hit

JN051512 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1425 GMT 5 Oct 87

[Communique No 2,860 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 5 October]

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted] Following all the enemy's buffoonery, very great numbers of our aircraft flew huge distances over the Arabian Gulf's waters. They despised the rotten Khomeyniite regime as well as its Navy, air defenses, preparations, silly threats, and the obscene words that other Iranian rulers do not master. Our aircraft carried out the following two heroic missions:

1. At 1345 [1045 GMT] today, our hawks arrived with their planes over Larak Island, which lies in the southern Arabian Gulf more than 1,200 km from our international borders. Our hawks raided the island like fierce lions, ridiculing the enemy defenses and preparations, defying the vast distances, and demonstrating the courage of Iraqi soldiers and the fitness of Iraqi hawks. They pounced on the island with their bombs, turning their targets into ashes, and converting the enemy's oil into fuel for the Iraqi fire. They left this distant port only after they were certain they had accurately struck their targets and after they observed rising fires and smoke that declared the collapse of the wrong and the defeat of all-lying charlatans.

2. Large numbers of our aircraft flew distances to Shaykh Sho'eyb Island, which the racists call Lavan Island. At 1211 [0911 GMT] today, our hawks flew over their targets and showered them with a hail of their bombs, setting ablaze, along with these targets, the Khomeyniites' rancorous hearts that harbor only grudges. After carrying out these two missions, our hawks returned to the homeland delighted with God's victory and proud of the praise of the leader and the people. [Passage omitted]

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 5 October 1987

Lloyds Confirms 4 Ships Hit

JN051641 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1609 GMT 5 Oct 87

[Text] London, 5 Oct (INA)—The British Lloyds insurance company has confirmed that two oil tankers were hit by Iraqi missiles when Iraqi fighter aircraft raided Iranian targets on the Arabian Gulf coast today.

In a cable sent to the INA office in London a short while ago, Lloyds said Iraqi missiles struck the giant Liberian tanker *Seawise Giant*, the largest oil tanker in the world. Its empty weight is 238,558 tonnes while its weight when loaded with crude oil is 564,739 tonnes. Lloyds explained that the Liberian tanker was built in 1976 and is operated by the Hong Kong-based Island Shipping Company [name as received]. Lloyds further explained that Iran uses the tanker to store its oil.

Lloyds also said the second tanker is Cypriot and is called the *Shining Star*. It is also used as a reservoir for Iranian crude oil near the oil pumping station in the Strait of Hormuz. Lloyds explained that the Cypriot tanker's empty weight is 128,929 tonnes while its loaded weight is 256,263 tonnes. It is operated by the London-based Kappa Shipping Company [name as received]. The tanker was chartered by the S.E. Baryus Shipping Company [name as received]. Lloyds said that the Iraqi missiles caused fires aboard the Liberian and Cypriot tankers.

In a subsequent cable to INA's correspondent in London, Lloyds explained that two other oil tankers were hit as a result of the Iraqi air raids against Iranian targets near the Strait of Hormuz.

Lloyds said another Liberian oil tanker named the *World Admiral* and also used for storing Iranian oil was struck. There is a great possibility that a Panamanian oil tanker named *Brazil Star* was hit. It is also used to store oil. Lloyds pointed out the *World Admiral*'s weight when empty is 106,673 tonnes while its its weight after loading increases to 237,311 tonnes. This tanker was built in 1974 and is operated by the Hong Kong-based Worldwide Shipping Corporation international shipping group. [name as received]

Lloyds also said the Panamanian tanker *Brazil Star* has an empty weight of 77,294 tonnes while its weight after loading is 183,526 tonnes. It was built in 1972. Lloyds confirmed that the giant Liberian tanker *Seawise Giant* sustained damage while fires still blaze on the Cypriot tanker *Shining Star*.

5th Tanker Said Hit

JN061026 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1000 GMT 6 Oct 87

[Text] Shipping sources in Manama reported today that Iraqi aircraft attacking oil tankers in the Gulf on 6 October struck a fifth tanker, the (*Legacy*), off the Iranian coast.

'Shining Star' Still Ablaze

JN060922 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 0800 GMT 6 Oct 87

[Text] In Bahrain, regional shipping sources said that one of the five oil tankers attacked by Iraqi aircraft on 5 October in Iran's oil terminal in Hormuz at the extrance to the Gulf was hit by an Iraqi missile. Fire broke out aboard the tanker *Shining Star* due to the attack.

According to the latest reports from Bahrain, the *Shining Star* is still ablaze this morning, and efforts to extinguish the fire were not successful. It is feared that the fire will spread from the *Shining Star* to other oil tankers near the oil terminal. The crew of the Shining Star had to evacuate their vessel.

Communique No 2,861 Issued

JN051744 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1717 GMT 5 Oct 87

[Communique No 2,861 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 5 October]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Our valiant Armed Forces continued their glorious defense of the homeland, imposing their absolute control of the situation in all sectors of operations.

The following is a roundup of our activities for yesterday evening and today:

1. A courageous force from our units in the II Army Corps central sector carried out a successful raid on enemy positions opposite our forces. Our attacking unit managed to kill nine scoundrels, wound others, and destroy a number of enemy positions. They then returned safely to base.

2. An SPG-9 gun emplacement was destroyed and a vehicle was burned and its occupants were killed in the Special I Army Corps sector—the Allahu Akbar Forces.

3. An SPG-9 gun, a machinegun, and an observation post were destroyed and two ammunition dumps were detonated in the III Army Corps sector east of Al-Basrah.

4. An infantry position was destroyed in the VI Army Corps sector east of the Tigris. A shovel [preceding word in English] and a machinegun were destroyed and its crew were killed on the VII Army Corps front.

5. Using long-range artillery, the criminal Iranian regime shelled residential areas in the valiant city of Basra, the city of Al-Sulaymaniyah, Khanaqin, and Badrah. The hostile shelling martyred 17 civilians, including 4 women and 3 children, and wounded several other citizens, including women and children.

The hostile shelling also damaged the Basra Grand Mosque, the Khanaqin Mosque, and the tomb of a shaykh. A number of civilian houses and property and an elementary school were also damaged.

Mercy and forgiveness to our martyrs, and a fast recovery to our wounded, God willing.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 5 October 1987

Plane Denied Downed 5 Oct

JN051911 Bagdhad INA in Arabic 1855 GMT 5 Oct 87

[Text] Baghdad, 5 Oct (INA)—An Iraqi military spokesman has denied Iranian claims concerning the downing an Iraqi aircraft today. The spokesman told INA tonight that all Iraqi aircraft that carried out their missions today returned safely to their bases in the homeland. He explained that the lying Iranian rulers' obsolete methods will not harm the supremacy and success of great Iraq.

Rocket Strikes Baghdad

JN052024 Bagdhad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 2000 GMT 5 Oct 87

[Statement by a military spokesman dated 5 October]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. The criminal Iranian regime has feelings of bitterness towards our people. It is militarily and politically bankrupt. It has failed to confront the capabilties of proud Iraq on the battlefield. To express all this, at 2207 [1907 GMT] today this regime fired a rocket supplied to it by Zionism, its allies, and the enemies of the Arab nation at the city of Baghdad, the city of peace and the capital of nobleness, honor, civilization, and virtue.

This rocket fell on a residential neighborhood, causing a number of civilian casualties. It also damaged a number of houses and shops. The Iranian regime will have to pay the price for this heinous crime. Perhaps this regime is trembling in fear of our reply because it realizes that we always do what we say we will.

[Dated] 5 October 1987

2d Rocket Hits Capital

NC052023 Baghdad INA in Arabic 2218 GMT 5 Oct 87

[Text] Baghdad, 5 Oct (INA)—The Iranian enemy fired a second rocket at Baghdad after midnight tonight. An Iraqi military spokesman told INA a short while ago that an Iranian rocket landed in a residential area in Baghdad at 25 minutes past midnight. Some civilians were martyred and a number of others were wounded as a result of the incident. A number of houses, shops, and a girls' secondary school were also damaged.

Sharon Permits 'Limited' Imports from PRC
TA051820 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 5 Oct 87 p 2

[Report by Gad Li'or]

[Text] Industry and Trade Minister Ari'el Sharon recently held several meetings with businessmen from the PRC who visited Israel.

Following contacts that have been kept secret until now, Minister Sharon decided to change the policy in force and permit the import of Chinese products into Israel. The move comes after Israel has already begun to export various products to the PRC.

In the meetings between Minister Sharon and the Chinese businessmen, the latter requested permission to export various goods to Israel, some in fairly large quantities. The minister made clear to the Chinese that he had indeed decided to allow Israel to import from the PRC "but only on a basis of mutuality."

The minister yesterday confirmed the existence of the contacts, making clear that he handed down an order to open the gates to "limited exports from the PRC on a basis of mutuality." However, he refused to disclose which produscts would be imported from the PRC, pointing out that the type of Israeli exports at this stage was "not for publication."

Meanwhile it has been learned that some exports to the PRC are being shipped directly in vessels leaving from Elat. Other exports are being transferred through Hong Kong. Businessmen from there have also been visiting Israel lately, showing special interest in clothing, especially swimwear. Following this it was decided to initiate an Israel Week in Hong Kong in the near future. It is possible that goods that will be shown at this Israel week will end up in the PRC.

Shamir Wants Pro-Jordanian Palestinian Party
TA051120 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 5 Oct 87 pp 1, 4

[Report by Pinhas 'Inbari]

[Excerpts] Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir yesterday called on King Husayn to meet with him for direct talks instead of an international conference. This was the main message in the first meeting of its kind between Shamir and pro-Jordanian Palestinians from the territories in the Prime Minister's Office. The meeting also indirectly touched on the possibility of consolidating Jordan's supporters into a political power, a party of sorts. [passage omitted]

Shamir noted that the PLO is completely out of the picture and that there will be no negotiations with it. He said he will continue to hold meetings with notables from the territories, but not with PLO supporters.

The Israeli side initiated a discussion on the need to consolidate the "moderate camp." Although the issue was not mentioned explicitly, some of the guests inferred that this referred to the need to establish a pro-Jordanian party of sorts. It is not clear what stands were taken on this issue.

Regarding daily life in the territories, the guests spoke of the problems in marketing agricultural products to Europe and of the demolition of illegally-built houses in the West Bank. Shmu'el Goren, coordinator of activities in the territories, suggested that it would be better to discuss these issues after the meeting with the prime minister. Following the meeting, the Arab notables and Goren met in another room. Goren proposed that agricultural exports to Europe will be conducted via Jordan, and said that Israel is willing to build large cold storage depots near the Jordan bridges, and even subsidize them.

Our correspondent notes that the EEC does not approve of this proposal. Regarding the issue of illegal construction, Goren said there are problems in the functioning of the West Bank regional planning boards. Once these are corrected the situation will improve significantly.

Peres, Japanese Official Discuss Economic Ties
TA051629 Tel Aviv IDF Radio In Hebrew 1500 GMT 5 Oct 87

[Text] There is hope for an improvement in economic relations between Israel and Japan following a meeting between Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres and Japan's Deputy Foreign Minister Takeshi Hamano. Our political correspondent 'Oz Frankel reports:

Takeshi Hamano is the highest ranking Japanese official to have visited Israel in 20 years. The highlights of his talks here were the various possibilities for economic cooperation between the two countries in view of Tokyo's increasing willingness to ignore the threat of an Arab boycott.

Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres proposed to the guest the establishment of a joint development and research fund and the planning of joint enterprises based on a free trade zone. Peres promised to say a prayer in Jerusalem for the health of the ailing Emperor Hirohito. The Japanese guest promised that upon his return to Tokyo he would examine ways to tighten commercial and economic ties between the two countries.

Nigeria Downplays Reports of Renewed Relations
TA051900 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 5 Oct 87

[Text] The spokesman for the Nigerian president says that reports about the impending renewal of diplomatic relations between his country and Israel are exaggerated. He said commentators gave too much importance to the meeting between Nigerian Foreign Minister Bolaji Akinyemi and his coumterpart Shim'on Peres.

Nigeria severed its diplomatic relations with Israel after the Yom Kippur War but several Israeli companies still operate in Nigeria, especially in the construction field.

Norway Bid for Heavy Water Supervision Denied

TA040548 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2100 GMT 3 Oct 87

[Text] Israel has rejected a Norwegian request that would enable international supervision over the heavy water Norway supplied to Israel 27 years ago. According to the Oslo Foreign Ministry spokesman, Israel rejected the request to transfer the heavy water to the International Atomic Energy Agency, whose headquarters is in Vienna, saying that this commission is one- sided in its political stand against Israel. A Norwegian delegation that had been discussing the future of the heavy water left Israel at the end of the week. Norway fears Israel is using the heavy water for the production of nuclear weapons.

France Decides Not To Buy Hercules Aircraft

TA040622 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2000 GMT 3 Oct 87

[Text] France has decided not to buy second-hand Hercules planes from Israel but to purchase new planes from Lockheed. Our correspondent Gid'on Kouts reports that negotiations were conducted recently between Israel and France on the sale of 12 Hercules planes. Paris has decided to cancel the deal because it fears political complications with Arab and African countries that do not recognize Israel.

Direct Airline Ties Established With Poland

TA041054 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 4 Oct 87 p 2

[Report by Roni Shaqed]

[Text] Poland and Israel will establish relations between airlines. This was agreed during Vice Prime Minister Shim'on Peres' meeting with the Polish foreign minister. It was decided that at first the two countries will use commercial companies to operate the line and fly regularly between Warsaw and Tel Aviv.

A Polish delegation will arrive here soon to sign the flight agreement. Apparently the "Arkia" company will operate some of the flights.

The Poles intend to combine tourist packages from the United States via Warsaw to Israel. This is aimed at Jewish tourists who will visit Jewish sites in Poland.

The Polish foreign minister told Peres that his government intends to invite a senior Israeli figure to participate in the celebrations marking the 45th anniversary of the Warsaw ghetto uprising. The Polish minister said his government intends to hold a large official ceremony to mark this event. The Israeli notable will apparently be Yitzhaq Navon, education and culture minister, who will arrive within the framework of cultural cooperation between the two countries.

Report on Prisoner Exchange With Arabs Denied

TA051655 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 5 Oct 87 pp, 1 2

[Report by 'Uzi Mahanaymi]

[Excerpt] The Syrian weekly *Al-Fursan*, published in London and Paris, said in its latest London edition on 28 September that contacts on a prisoner exchange were recently held in a European capital between Israel and representatives of Arab countries. During these talks the possibility of an exchange was raised, in which Israel would receive the captured Phantom navigator as well as two IDF soldiers kidnapped in Lebanon.

Al-Fursan is a Syrian publication whose editor is the son of Rif'at al-Asad, brother of the Syrian president.

The three soldiers mentioned in the report are:

—The navigator of the Phantom shot down in southern Lebanon in October 1986. According to reports, in the past he was held by the Amal organization headed by Nabih Birri.

—Two IDF soldiers, Yosi Fink and Rahamim Alshekh, who were kidnapped in February 1986 in an ambush on a convoy of vehicles in the security zone. After the kidnapping there were large spots of blood on the site, and it was not clear which organization was holding them. According to reports, the supposition was that they were captured by the Hizbollah organization. [passage omitted]

[Tel Aviv *Ma'ariv* in Hebrew on 5 October in a page A6 related report by Barukh Meiri, adds: "There is currently no deal pending involving the exchange of terrorists for Israeli prisoners. This emerges from the response supplied by the State to the Supreme Court. In view of this announcement by the State Attorney's Office, families who lost their loved ones in terrorist acts have announced that they are rescinding an appeal against the state."]

Cabinet Discusses Cancellation of VOA Project

TA051257 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 5 Oct 87 p 2

[Report by political correspondent Yosi Melman]

[Text] Gad Ya'aqobi, economics and planning minister, is acusing the United States of breaking the contract between the two countries on the Voice of America station.

In yesterday's Cabinet session, Foreign Minister Peres briefed the ministers about his talk on this issue with George Shultz. Shultz told him "there were problems in raising the funds for the establishment of the station." He expressed the hope, however, that funds will be found, even if they are only partial funding to enable the continuation of the project in the future.

In reaction, Minister Ya'aqobi said that the United States has actually violated the contract for the establishment of the station in the 'Arava, pointing out that it was the United States who initiated the project. He quoted from William Safire's column in *The New York Times* in which he claimed that the motive for the change in the U.S. position is not budgetary but political. Safire believes that the improvement in U.S.-Soviet relations is the real cause for the postponement of the project, which provoked an angry Soviet reaction.

Commentaries Preview Shultz Visit, Outcome

HA'ARETZ on Shamir Reaction

TA021732 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew
2 Oct 87 p B1

[Commentary by A. Schweitzer: "Shultz' Visit: A Sign of Things To Come"]

[Text] Were the sun to rise in the west and Prime Minister Shamir asked to comment, he would probably reply that this did not surprise him. To the extent that our prime minister can lose his poise, the report about U.S. Secretary of State Shultz' upcoming visit took him by surprise and, what is more, an unpleasant surprise at that.

The statements sounded both brave and calm: "He knows my position." "He is not coming to argue with me." However, both these utterances sound rather empty in view of what has been learned in the 24 hours since Shamir made these remarks. The secretary of state himself made it plain that he would be arriving here to allay Israel's fears about what it might incur from an international conference. The punch line, however, came at the end: Shultz would be coming here to argue, even though he is well aware of the positions held by the big bad wolf, the Israeli prime minister.

One has the suspicion that, if not Shamir then at least the members of his court, ranging from Yosi Ben-Aharon to Ehud Olmert, are aware of the possibility that Shamir may be in for several bitter arguments over the issue of an international conference and the question of the future of Judaea and Samaria that transcends it. They probably are also aware that these arguments will not only be waged with the Chinese and the Soviets, but also with much closer relatives: Jews, Americans, and what not. Otherwise there is no explaining why Shamir himself deemed it fit to ask the admirable and distinguished humanitarian leader Nicolae Ceausescu to mediate between him and Mubarak and Husayn, or why the loyal Herutnik Moshe 'Amirav chose precisely this time to flirt secretly with PLO representatives. (Incidentally, it should be noted that in spite of the denials, we agree with Knesset Member Kohen-Avidov's view that his colleagues, Meridor and Olmert, were in on the affair and that even the leader himself was aware of it). They were caught with their hands in the cookie jar. This is the only conclusion that can be reached from the running amok in the national camp and the leader's courtyard. Their statements are merely panicky whistles in the dark.

Nevertheless, Shamir is right if his remarks are read to mean that, at worst, Shultz is coming to argue and not to twist arms. Not only is his mind not free to go into the intricacies of the currently calm Israeli-Arab conflict, but the upcoming elections in his country and in Israel preclude the United States from exerting strong pressure on Israel. There is the Republican Party in the United States and there is uncertainty about excessive involvement in the struggle between the Alignment and the Likud. What Shamir wants to say (but cannot say because, unlike some of his colleagues whose names we do not care to mention, he is a polite person) is that the secretary of state has a mouth but no teeth.

His rival, Shim'on Peres, would be well advised to embrace this assessment. Although he is right to be glad about Shultz' visit, this joy should not interfere with his objectivity. The secretary of state will not budge Shamir and if Peres believes that the next few months are critical insofar as the peace process is concerned, he has more than enough reasons to start despairing. The peace process will not really be budged in the next few months. It seems that not only Shamir but also Peres went too far in their statements. We hope Peres will act as if he had not said: If not now, then never. Never is too final a word and, what is more, for the time being his Arab interlocutors remain emphatically loyal to their commitments to him.

The two rivals, Shamir and Peres, had better ask themselves what brings the secretary of state here despite the prime minister's accurate assessment that Shultz cannot exert real pressure at this time. If one rules out the possibility that he is coming here as a tourist or to receive honorary degrees from academic institutions in Tel Aviv and Rehovot, then the answer is self-evident. The secretary of state is coming here in the framework of what the Americans call a "holding operation" [last two words in English], or a temporary freeze of a process until the time is ripe to revive it. In other words, the United States has embraced the notion of an agreement between Israel and Jordan by means of negotiations under an international umbrella. This is a U.S. national policy and not just that of a particular administration. That which Shultz cannot do now will be pursued by his successor.

This is the message behind the secretary of state's visit. It means that Herut is right to be nervous, although there is no immediate cause. The same applies to the satisfaction

felt by the Labor Party and its leader, although they also should realize that there is no question of immediate action. What the national camp on the one hand and the Alignment on the other may get into their heads should also get into the heads of their partners, the religious parties in particular. In other words, these parties should not abet the Likud's frenzy, which is meant to ease the way for the establishment of a narrow-based government before the 12th Knesset elections or, if the elections end in another tie, they should favor the Alignment as the leader of a government which would act in cooperation with the United States.

Things are developing in a convenient way for the Alignment, and the secretary of state's visit proves it. This being the case, it is strange that Peres should wish to bring matters to a head by presenting the option as being peace now or apocalypse now. One should probably ignore this, just as one should ignore Shamir's verbal bravado. The dynamics of current events are too strong to be accelerated, held back, or what is even more unlikely, stopped by the politicians of a small and dependent country. Bismarck's comment comes to mind in this context: A statesman must listen for God's steps in history and hang onto the hem of his coattails before it is too late. Shamir seems to have shut his ears a long time ago. Peres still has a chance of listening and stretching out his hand at the right moment.

AL-NAHAR Voices Pessimism

TA051336 Jerusalem AL-NAHAR in Arabic 30 Sep 87 pp 1, 11

[Editorial: "George Shultz and His Visit To Avoid Reproach"]

[Excerpts] It is extremely important to point out that the U.S. secretary of state's visit to the Middle East has begun to take shape in news reports, commentaries, speculations, and conclusions. It is also very important to reaffirm that the Reagan administration has never contributed to activating the peace efforts and to the attempt to reach a just solution to the Middle East crisis. On the contrary, the present U.S. Administration has played a major role in stalemating the situation and in suspending international efforts to resolve the Middle East crisis.

The U.S. secretary of state's upcoming visit to the region is more a cermonial visit than a working visit meant to achieve results. Shultz is not coming to the Middle East on a mediation mission, but in an effort to cover up the negative positions the Reagan administration has adopted over the past years.

We would like to remind George Shultz that for several years now the Arabs have been proposing to the Israelis peace in return for land and negotiations in an international conference. What has the United States done to make Israel respond favorably to Arab readiness to make peace in the Middle East? Nothing, nothing. Rather, George Shultz himself has transformed Israeli differences over the international conference into a game of hide-and-seek behind which he tries to avoid playing an active role in convincing Israel of the need ot participate in the international conference. [passage omitted]

The Middle East crisis has remained on the sidelines of U.S. concerns and in the hands and briefcases of minor U.S. envoys. This makes one very much doubt George Shultz' desire, as well as that of President Reagan, to play an active role in resolving the Middle East crisis. Hence, the U.S. secretary of state is coming to the Middle East to avoid reproach and to arouse waves of optimism that are not based on any real effort. He will do this in making some ambiguous statements which do not commit Washington to any decisive and clear position. This reality is the calamity of U.S. foreign policy.

Navy Intercepts Bahraini Vessel Off Haifa

TA041525 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1500 GMT 4 Oct 87

[Text] A Bahraini merchant marine vessel was spotted off the Israeli coast seeking entry into the port for an overhaul. At this point, the Israeli Navy's reaction was: This is out of the question. Our military correspondent Alon Ben-David reports:

[Begin recording] Yesterday, a Navy boat spotted a small merchant marine vessel flying the flag of the Emirate of Bahrain. It was located off the Israeli coast but outside Israeli territorial waters. After brief questioning it became evident that the ship was en route to Haifa for an overhaul by a company called Dizengoff. As it sailed toward Haifa, it was discovered that the vessel had failed to obtain the necessary licenses for the overhaul. The Navy boat instructed the Bahraini vessel to remain outside Israeli territorial waters until all the licenses for its continued operations are obtained. The vessel is currently anchored off Haifa port, and it is not clear where the overhaul will be done.[End recording]

Lebanese Citizen Seriously Wounded by IDF

TA031842 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 3 Oct 87

[Text] An IDF force in the southern Lebanon security zone has wounded a Lebanese citizen who tried to attack our soldiers. Our correspondent Hayim Hecht reports that the man was driving a Mercedes and tried to run over IDF troops who were on patrol. He slightly grazed one of the soldiers. The soldiers from the force shot at him, and he was seriously wounded. After it turned out that he is a U.S. resident [not further clarified], he was transferred to the Rambam Hospital in Haifa.

Unique Airborne Refueling System Developed

TA041304 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 4 Oct 87 p 3

[Report by Arye Arad]

[Text] Israel has developed a system of airborne refueling that is the interim generation between the old system based on eye contact with the plane being refueled, and

the modern system which is entirely radio operated. The Israeli refueling plane costs only $10 million compared with $70 million for the modern U.S. plane. It is believed that there is a great export potential for it. As has been published, the Israeli refueling plane served the planes that once attacked terrorist bases in Tunisia.

The fueling system, developed by Israel Aircraft Industries [IAI], was offered to the United States at the beginning of the decade. They claimed, however, that technologically speaking it would be impossible to make it, and so the fueling plane was developed in Israel. The Israeli system has an operational edge over any other system in that it completely frees the crew of the fueling plane as well as that of the plane being refueled from direct involvement in the fueling process.

The role of the fueling pilots and those being refueled is restricted to bringing their planes to the meeting point at the set time and maintaining suitable flight during the refueling. In other systems the linkage and fueling falls upon the pilots of the fueling plane or of the one being fueled, something that distracts their attention from their main task.

IAI opted to install the refueling gear in a Boeing-707, which is familiar in Israel and can be found in Air Force service. However, they can be installed using the same system in any passanger plane. The larger the plane, the more fuel can be carried. The Israeli Boeing is capable of carrying 33,000 gallons of fuel, with the fighter planes' tanks having a capacity of between 5,000 and 8,000 gallons.

The fuel is pumped from the fueling plane's tanks. To increase its capacity, tanks instead of passenger seats have been installed in the Boeing. These tanks increase the plane's fuel capacity by 5,000 gallons. The plane is equipped with an automatic regulator that distributes the accumulated fuel among its various tanks in order to preserve its balance.

The Israeli fueling plane is also capable of servicing other fueling planes of the same type. The plane can also be set up to refuel several planes at once.

Information Minister Returns From Saudi Arabia

NC051205 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1030 GMT 5 Oct 87

[Excerpt] Information Minister Joseph Skaf returned to Beirut from Saudi Arabia at 1200 today, following an official visit to that country which lasted several days. During the visit, Minister Skaf met with King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz and senior Saudi officials as well as Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi, who was on a visit to Saudi Arabia. Minister Skaf and Saudi officials discussed a number of issues pertaining to the current situation in Lebanon and the area, particularly Saudi Arabia's political and economic support for Lebanon.

In an arrival statement at Beirut airport, Minister Skaf thanked the Saudi officials for the assistance they have given and will continue to give Lebanon. He said: I briefed King Fahd on the tragic situation in Lebanon. I also thanked him on behalf of Prime Minister Dr Salim al-Huss and on my own behalf, for his humanitarian initiative in providing moral and material support to help ease the economic catastrophe facing the Lebanese people. [passage omitted]

Birri Asks UN Investigation of Israeli Actions

NC051152 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1030 GMT 5 Oct 87

[Text] Minister Nabih Birri today sent a cable of condolences to UN Secretary General Perez de Cuellar on the death of a Nepalese UN soldier. The cable said: On behalf of the people of southern Lebanon and on behalf of the resistance, I send you my profound condolences on the killing of a member of the Nepalese UNIFIL contingent by the Israeli forces. This hideousness and savageness of such actions are becoming more evident daily.

Minister Birri added: Attacks against civilians and UN forces coincide with Israel's annexation of border land. We, therefore, urgently request the formation of a UN committee to immediately investigate these actions, which contravene UN conventions and rules.

PSP-Controlled Airfield Used for Training

NC060653 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0615 GMT 6 Oct 87

[Text] According to information received by our radio, the PSP has started to use Al-Dumur airfield, which was established by the Israelis and taken over by the PSP in 1982. According to the same information, three (Pivot Cap) aircraft have been conducting daily training flights from the aforesaid airfield for 1 week now.

Amal Official Says Relations With PSP 'Thorny'

NC060702 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0445 GMT 6 Oct 8

[Text] Amal Movement deputy leader 'Akif Haydar has noted that the PSP's decision to send mercenaries to Libya has become a thorny issue in terms of Amal-PSP relations. He criticized the Unification and Liberation Front's inability to adopt a position on the issue of the Palestinians, the civil administration, and the dispatch of mercenaries to Libya. He added: As long as the Front members do not halt their ideological battle, it is to be expected that this Front will stumble.

Phalangist Infighting Continues Over Leaders

NC051518 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1300 GMT 5 Oct 87

[Text] The Phalangist Party infighting is continuing. More accusations are directed at the party's leaders and warnings for them not to continue on their current course are being voiced.

The Voice of Truth radio, which is affiliated with Amin al-Jumayyil, this afternoon broadcast a message addressed by an official source of the Phalangist Salvation Front to the Phalangist Political Bureau, which was holding a meeting at the party's headquarters. The message said:

Members of the Phalangist Political Bureau should show more concern over the anger and resentment of those who oppose the way the party is being run. The Phalangist Party is being turned into a dicatorship, with favoritism to supporters of the current leaders becoming the order of the day.

A mere glance at a list of those appointed lately to head party departments will reveal that of 40 new department chiefs, 22 are followers of Dr George Sa'adah. This is why a pause to reflect on the current resentment is badly needed. This resentment is not confined only to those who tendered their resignations recently from the Political Bureau or from the central departments. It is also felt by veteran Phalangists everywhere, for whom the current breaking of party traditions is unacceptable.

The official source added: The party command is facing a crucial test. If it fails to repair the damage done by its recent acts, or to reconsider its ways, the party is heading for an uncertain future, for which this command will have to accept the blame.

PLO Officer Says Amal Reneged on Agreement

NC051227 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1130 GMT 5 Oct 87

[Text] The implementation of the agreement on the Palestinian camps that was reached in Sidon between the Liberation and Unification Front delegation and a Palestinian delegation did not begin today as scheduled.

Staff Lieutenant Colonel 'Ala', commander of the Palestinian Revolution Forces in the south, made a statement on this issue today. He said: Since agreement was reached with the Unification and Liberation Front under the auspices of Brother Mustafa Sa'd on 11 September 1987, the Amal Movement has not even partially implemented its articles. The siege of the camps has not been lifted nor have humanitarian services been offered to our kinfolk in the camps. The agreement's first article stipulated that these moves be implemented.

This was to be followed by the Palestinian forces' withdrawal from east Sidon and their redeployment to new positions which the Unification and Liberation Front leadership would determine in accordance with the plan to confront the enemy and his agents. Pursuant to this, he added, the Palestinian Revolution Forces deployed east of Sidon are not concerned with any moves unless the first article of the agreement is implemented and the new positions are determined in advance. He added: We hope that the Unification and Liberation Front's leadership will play a role in implementing the articles of the agreement reached on 11 September 1987. We hold Amal responsible for the continuing siege of the camps and for the continuing detention of Palestinians in Beirut and the south.

Hizballah Alerted Due to Amal Security Plan

NC060627 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0515 GMT 6 Oct 87

[Text] Preparations by the Amal Movement continue for the unilateral implementation of a security plan in Beirut's southern suburb as of this Thursday [8 October]. According to the plan, the military offices in the suburb will be closed and a special force from Amal will be formed to maintain security in the area. Hizballah, which opposes this plan, has warned against the implementation of these measures and declared a state of alert among its members.

Iranian Guards Ordered To 'Liquidate' Amal

NC051415 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1345 GMT 5 Oct 8

[Text] The Paris-based magazine *Al-Watan al-'Arabi* reports that Iranian Revolutionary Guards in Lebanon have been assigned two new tasks: To liquidate the Amal Movement and to seek rapprochement with the Sunnis.

The magazine has disclosed that Syrian leaders succeeded in expelling Iranian intelligence service personnel and Revolutionary Guards from Lebanon 3 months ago. They were able to return, however, to Shi'ite areas in [Beirut's southern] suburb, Ba'labakk, and some areas in southern Lebanon.

Group Warns of Prisoner Maltreatment in Israel

NC052002 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1915 GMT 5 Oct 87

[Text] A hitherto-unknown organization calling itself the Islamic Struggle Squads [Saraya al-Jihad al-Islami] has warned that it will attack Israeli civilians if Israel mistreats its Palestinian prisoners. A statement issued by the organization in Beirut today said that if the lives of brother strugglers are endangered, the group would start a war not only against Israeli military personnel, but also against civilians.

The statement, which was accompanied by a picture of a woman called 'Itaf Dawud Husayn 'Ilyan, who is a prisoner in Israel, warned against harming her and a man by the name of Sulayman al-Zuhayri, who was imprisoned for attempting to blow up a booby-trapped car near the Israeli Government offices last month.

Country To Attend Summit, Cabinet To Resign

JN051942 Kuwait AL-SIYASAH in Arabic 4 Oct 87 p 1

[Text] *Al-Siyasah* has learned that the present Syrian Government will tender its resignation soon and will thus enable Prime Minister 'Abd al-Ra'uf al-Kasm to form it once again. Among the most prominent faces that will be absent from the new Cabinet are the ministers of finance, information, tourism, and industry.

In another development, *Al-Siyasah* has learned that Syria will attend the Amman summit and that it will not set impossible conditions for attending.

USSR's Khomenko Leaves Damascus for Home

JN051631 damascus SANA in Arabic 1500 GMT 5 Oct 87

[Text] Damascus, 5 Oct (SANA)—Khomenko, deputy chairman of the USSR State Planning Committee [title as received], and his accompanying delegation left Damascus following a 10-day visit to Syria. During the visit Khomenko met a number of officials and signed a protocol for industrial cooperation between Syria and the USSR.

TISHRIN Examines 'Aggressive' U.S. Strategy

PM060815 Damascus TISHRIN in Arabic 24 Sept 87 p 9

[Ali al-Suwwan article: "The Real Face of the United States"]

[Excerpts] The aggression committed by U.S. forces in the Arab Gulf against the Iranian merchant vessel reflects the definite purpose of the mobilization of all these forces in the region. Time will reveal sooner or later the extent of the shortsightedness of those possessed with malice towards Iran.

Fanciful ideas about present matters are causing them to be elated by U.S. "generosity" in "defending freedom of navigation in the Gulf," oblivious to the fact that the aggressive U.S. measure against Iran is an inseparable part of a higher U.S. strategy with separate calculations, however, in the final analysis it is at odds with the calculations of those who are unable to comprehend the full nature of U.S. manifestations of a higher strategy, sometimes by force, other times by hatching political plots.

In other words, the transition from U.S. military mobilization in the Arab Gulf to performing the task for which it came correlates with the activities of the U.S. mobilization in Lebanon and off its shores years ago when force was used to distort Lebanon's will and to force it to become the principal base after Egypt for Arabizing Camp David. [Passage omitted]

Once again, the real purpose of U.S. military mobilization in the Gulf really is aggression and not sightseeing. U.S. aggression is merely the implementing tool for a higher policy; its spearhead is directed against everything at odds with U.S. interests in this homeland and it has two basic and fixed elements, even though some desire to bury them under the heap of everyday minor factors and immediate present interests. These two basic elements are: guaranteeing the safe and regular plundering of the region's material wealth and guaranteeing legitimate survival for the Zionist "state" as well as its superiority over all the Arabs.

Just as U.S. military aggression in the Gulf expresses these two basic elements, it also expresses all the outward manifestations of U.S. political moves in the region: the visit of the head of the Maghreb section of the CIA, William Webster, who was received by the king, and the forthcoming visit of the head of the Pentagon, Caspar Weinberger. It is obvious that Webster's task, the duration and aim of which have not been announced, is obscure, just as it is clear that Reagan's description of the aggression by his forces in the Gulf is the same as his description of the task of the Marines and the *New Jersey* in Lebanon: to defend peace!!!

Indeed it is "peace," but peace for U.S. hegemony, which embodies the true and only face of America toward all peoples, including the Arab and Iranian peoples, the sort of hegemony which finds the kind of people to rely on, uses them, blackmails them, saps their energy, and encompasses them in its strategy which is based on calculations separate from their illusions of grandeur.

AL-THAWRAH Sees U.S. Fueling Gulf Tension

PM060819 Damascus AL-THAWRAH in Arabic 25 Sep 87 p 1

[Editorial: "The Dangers of Slipping into a Line of Support for U.S. Policy in the Gulf"]

[Text] The United States initiated a new phase of serious escalation in the Arab Gulf when its forces, mobilized there, committed aggression against an Iranian cargo vessel in a move seen by observers as a direct intervention in the war in favor of one of the two warring parties, a matter which confirms U.S. insincerity when it claims it is anxious to stop the war and safeguard shipping in the Gulf.

The U.S. aggression was timed to coincide with the start of the new UN General Assembly session, leaving no room for peace efforts to pursue the aim of finding an objective way of stopping the war which Washington has exploited to serve its interests and strategic aims in the region.

By all international standards and measures, the U.S. aggression is considered as a provocative step that could lead to counteraction, because for every action there is a

reaction. That would result in further escalations in that inflamed part of the world, which is what Washington wants in its endeavor to encircle the region and impose military hegemony.

It is quite clear that the United States, which has completed its military concentrations in the Gulf and dragged many of its Western allies into that slippery and dangerous situation, is determined to further fuel the fire while pretending to be eager to promote peace and security there. Its escalatory move cannot possibly help the chances of peace and security. On the contrary, it serves the designs aimed at inflaming the entire region and involving the Arabs in the war to keep their attention pinned on that marginal issue and away from their central issue and real conflict with the Zionist enemy and the danger it poses to all Arabs.

The U.S. fleets did not go to the Gulf on a picnic. They went there in such strength as invaders with the aim of further exacerbating the situation, thus intensifying the danger and threatening peace and security, not only of the region but of the whole world.

The Arabs should be alert to the risks involved in following the misleading U.S. policy, which ultimately only serves the U.S. strategy and Zionist designs, bearing in mind the common denominators between the two strategic allies and their interest in promoting their imperialist ambitions. They should at least realize that every Arab effort wasted on a marginal battle eases some of the pressure on the enemy and undermines the effectiveness of Arab struggle solidarity. The Arab nation's resources should be devoted to the battle of destiny and survival against the Zionist enemy.

Afghanistan

Keshtmand Addresses Craftsmen's Congress

LD031341 Kabul BAKHTAR in English
0503 GMT 2 Oct 87

[Text] Kabul, October 1, *Bakhtar*—The extended activity for the expansion of social bases of the April revolution, the cessation of bloodshed, the stability of peace and tranquillity in the country, the attraction of cooperation of all patriotic and democratic forces and all those who are ready to take part in the construction of a non-aligned and independent Afghanistan are our programmes for the realisation of which we take specific steps.

This was said by Soltan Ali Keshtmand, Politburo member of the PDPA CC and chairman of the Council of Ministers of the DRA, in the first congress of craftsmen.

Our socio-economic programmes, he added, are the proper basis for the realisation of the policy of national reconciliation and are in conformity with the interests of all social stratas, including the craftsmen and industrialists. In the context of the socio-economic growth of the DRA for the years 1986-1991, the growth and expansion of all sectors of the economy including the handicrafts have been envisaged.

Historical geographical background, S.A. Keshtmand continued to say, is one of the factors which lies behind the growth and expansion of the handicraft industry in the country. Afghanistan has been situated in the course of commercial routes between East and West and has thus served as a great centre of craft activity in the East.

Presently, about 500 rpt 500 thousand persons are engaged in different types of professions and there exists about 17 rpt 17 thousand different plants. Now, in the sphere of handicraft, over forty percent of gross national products of industries are produced in the private sector. The value of export products which are produced by the craftsmen amounts at forty million dollars, chairman of the Council of Ministers said.

The party and state of the DRA have plans to provide the craftsmen with raw materials, to supply them with needed materials from inside and outside the country and to extend to them banking credits, said Soltan Ali Keshtmand.

Makes Concluding Speech

LD031347 Kabul BAKHTAR in English
0509 GMT 2 Oct 87

[Text] Kabul, October 1, *Bakhtar*—Establishment of the atmosphere of conciliation and good will for a just and peaceful life which were presented in all speeches delivered in the congress is not only the aspirations of the participants of the congress, but also manifests the wishes of hundreds of thousands craftsmen for a prosperous life.

This was said by Soltan Ali Keshtmand, Politburo member of the PDPA CC and chairman of the Council of Ministers of the DRA, in his concluding speech in the first congress of the craftsmen held here today.

The work of the congress, the significant decisions adopted regarding the establishment of the craftsmen union of Afghanistan, approval of the statute of the Craftsmen Union, the resolution of the congress, and other measures for the growth of different branches of handicrafts in the country are highly assessed, the chairman of the Council of Ministers of the DRA noted.

So far a massive organisation for the craftsmen in the country as your union had not existed, Soltan Ali Keshtmand stated.

The chairman of the Council of Ministers of the DRA said that the following measures would be taken on the basis of the demands and wishes expressed during the work of the congress:

—Opening of a special branch would be considered in the Industrial Bank which would study the demands of the craftsmen for granting credits.

—The executive committees in provinces and cities would be assigned to provide suitable places for the installment of the handicraft workshops and plants.

—Serious steps would be taken for the supply of raw materials for handicrafts.

—The children and students of craftsmen and industrialists will have the priority to enter the technical and professional schools, and the best students would be sent to the friendly countries for acquiring higher studies.

—The ministries of foreign trade and finance will be assigned to seek practical ways for marketing of the handicrafts inside and outside the country and to protect them against the similar imported goods.

—The Soviet aids for the craftsmen will be attracted in the framework of the direct relations of cooperation between the provinces of the DRA and city of Kabul and the republics and regions of the Soviet Union.

Amin Heads Delegation to Poland, Bulgaria

LD041514 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto
1530 GMT 3 Oct 87

[Excerpt] Sayed Amanuddin Amin, vice chairman of the DRA Council of Ministers, leading a delegation made up of state officials and representatives of private investors, left yesterday for the People's Republic of Poland and the People's Republic of Bulgaria for an official friendly visit. [Passage omitted]

PDPA Member Returns from Romania, Poland

LD041531 Kabul BAKHTAR in English
0436 GMT 4 Oct 87

[text] Kabul, October 3, *Bakhtar*—Najmoddin Kawiani, alternate member of the Politburo and secretary of the Central Committee of the PDPA, returned home on Friday after a visit to Romania and Poland.

The high-ranking party and state delegation of the DRA had meetings with Nicolae Ceausescu, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Romanian Communist Party and president of the State Council of the Romanian Socialist Republic; and Wojciech Jaruzelski, first secretary of the Polish United Workers' Party (PUWP) and president of the State Council of the Polish People's Republic.

During the meetings, the leaders of the said countries expressed their complete support for the realisation of the policy of national reconciliation which has been announced by the party and state of the DRA as the only alternative to war and fratricide in the country.

Hikmatyar Denies Diverting Arms to Iran

BK041031 Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English
26 Sep 87 p 8

[From Rahimullah Yusufzai]

[Text] Peshawar, Sept 25 — The Hezb-e Eslami Afghanistan chief, Gulbuddin Hikmatyar, has said Afghan mujahidin were in sight of victory in their 'jihad' against Soviet occupation and commmunist regime in Kabul provided the Pakistan Government and people continued to lend them moral support by refusing to be intimidated by the accelerated sabotage activities and crossborder raids.

In an interview with *The Muslim* at the Hezb-e Eslami's newly-built headquarters in shamshatoo village near Peshawar, he wondered what the Pakistani politicians hoped to achieve through their much-publicised visits to Afghanistan and meetings with helpless Kabul regime officials. He argued that these pointless visits were not only inproperly timed but had also provided the beleaguered Soviets with a much-needed propaganda boost to drum-up their peaceful pretensions and in the process prolonge their occupation of Afghanistan. He added that the misguided visits had also aroused misgivings about the motives of the Pakistani politicians and caused a breach in the Afghan policy of Pakistan whose territorial integrity too was threatened by Soviet expansionist designs and its occupation of Afghanistan.

Commenting on the failure of eighth round of Geneva talks on Afghanistan, Hikmatyar maintained that these negotiations would remain fruitless until the two real parties to the conflict i.e. mujahidin and the Soviet Union were brought to the negotiation table. He remarked that it will be a proof of Soviet sincerity to withdraw its troops from Afghanistan if it agreed to talk directly to the mujahidin. He felt the Geneva proximity talks were being exploited by the Russians to dupe the world public opinion into accepting their yearnings for a peaceful political settlement of the Afghan issue.

Questioned whether he has been able to pre-empt the planned return of former King Zahir Shah, the Hezb-e Eslami chief claimed the Afghan 'jihad' had brought about profound changes in the political landscape of Afghanistan and had rendered people like Zahir Shah redundant.

Replying to a question about the unity of eight resistance groups in Iran, Hikmatyar felt it would not last long as the move was not discussed with him and other mujahidin leaders. He said he was still campaigning for the implementation of his party's proposal which was earlier accepted by leaders of the seven-party alliance, Islamic Unity of Afghan Mujahidin: elections be held for a 312-member Shura [Advisory Council] including 52 from amongst refugees in Pakistan and Iran, to act as a legal body representing Afghans embracing all shades of opinion. He said this elected Shura, which will vindicate the democratic pretensions of the Afghan resistance and eliminate chances of an armed power struggle in the event of Soviet withdrawal from Afghanistan, could also serve as a basis for establishing a government-in-exile.

Hikmatyar deneid that Hezb-e Eslami had received supplies of Stinger and Blowpipe missiles and also refuted allegations that certain resistance groups had diverted Stinger missiles to Iran for use in the Gulf war or in the 'tanker war' in Persian Gulf. He also termed as mere speculation reports in American press that the U.S. Government had decided to send long-range mortars and mine-clearing equipment to mujahidin by November this year. Claiming that the mujahidin had overcome the air superiority hitherto enjoyed by the Soviets in Afghanistan, he said beginning with 50 enemy planes shot down in the first year of resistance the mujahidin had progressively increased their score and the toll was 1200-1400 planes this year. He, however, refused to admit that far too many aircraft had been hit this year owing to the effective use of Stingers and Blowpipes by mujahidin.

The Hezb-e-Eslami leader talked at length about the Sept.14 remote-controlled car-bomb blast on Warsak Road in Peshawar which he claimed was aimed at killing him. He termed as improbable suggestions that the car-bomb was detonated by rival resistance groups to eliminate him or it was sponsored by him to regain his sagging popularity and win sympathies of the Afghan people. He said the car bomb was apparently exploded by the KGB which was an obvious enemy, owing to his armed struggle against Russian occupationist troops. He admitted that he had become a bit careless in his security measures but dismissed observations that Hezb-e Eslami might have been infiltrated in view of the precise nature and timing of the attack.

Mujahidin Reportedly Shoot Down Mig-21, Mig-23

LD051640 Tehran IRNA in English 1615 GMT 5 Oct 87

[Text] Islamabad, Oct. 5, IRNA—Afghan mujahidin shot down two Soviet-made Migs 21 and 23 in Baghman Governorate [name as received], 20 kms. east of Kabul when they attempted to bomb mujahidin positions in the area on September 16 and 21. Pilots of both the planes were killed in the attack, according to reports reaching here.

Meanwhile, a mujahidin commander told IRNA that the Kabul regime is using prisoners to fight the mujahidin. The Kabul regime had despatched 600 prisoners who have completed their prison terms in Pol-Charkhi [name as received] jail to war fronts against mujahidin, he added.

He said so far many of these prisoners have joined mujahidin at the earliest opportunity.

India

Sri Lankan Peacekeeping Force To Increase

BK051557 Delhi ISI Diplomatic Information Service in English 1515 GMT 5 Oct 87

["Statement of official spokesman" on violence in Sri Lanka's Northern and Eastern Provinces; dated 5 October]

[Text] We have been noting with concern the outbreak of violence in the Northern and Eastern Provinces of Sri Lanka in recent weeks and the situation arising out of the recent incidents of ethnic violence in Trincomalee. In order to deal effectively with the situation which has arisen in the wake of ethnic violence, it has been decided to augment the strength of the Indian Peacekeeping Force for which additional units of the Armed Forces are being inducted.

Commitment to Sri Lankan Accord Reaffirmed

BK060318 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 6 Oct 87

[Text] India has reaffirmed its commitment to implement all provisions of the India-Sri Lanka peace agreement and to cooperate with Sri Lankan authorities to bring back normalcy to the island. This message of the Indian prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, was conveyed to President Jayewardene by the Indian high commissioner in Sri Lanka, Mr J.N. Dixit. He met the Sri Lankan president for over 90 minutes immediately after his return to Colombo last evening. India will also cooperate, the message added, with Sri Lankan forces in meeting the critical development in the north and the east within the framework of the commitment and obligations envisaged in the agreement.

President Jayewardene took note of the message and said that he expects India to implement the provisions of the agreement and ensure the safety and well-being of all the communities. The president hoped that the critical situation in the north and the east will be tackled with full cooperation between the peacekeeping forces and the Sri Lankan forces.

Meanwhile, reports from Jaffna say that the militants attacked two Sri Lankan Army camps at Thondamannar and Point Pedro in Jaffna Peninsula after 12 of their men committed suicide at Palaly yesterday. About 800 Sri Lankan Tamil refugees will leave for Trincomalee tomorrow by a specially charted ship from the port of Tuticorin in Tamil Nadu. UNI [*United News of India*] quoting official sources says the refugees will be given special ration before embarkation.

UN Observers Banned From Siachen Glacier Area

BK060912 Hong Kong AFP in English 0844 GMT 6 Oct 87

[Text] New Delhi, Oct 6 (AFP)—India banned United Nations observers last week from visiting a glacier region in disputed Kashmir where Indian and Pakistani troops clashed two weeks ago, officials said Tuesday.

They said the three-member UN military observer team was prevented from visiting the Nubra Valley in Kashmir's Ladakh region shortly after the worst Indo-Pakistani fighting in years erupted on the Siachen Glacier.

New Delhi last Wednesday said its troops had "repulsed" a battalion-sized Pakistani attack on four Himalayan outposts after three nights of fierce fighting that began September 25.

Indian Home Ministry officials, who asked not to be named, said the UN observers wanted to cross the Indian line of control over the glacier on a fact-finding mission that was to take in Pakistani outposts.

Officials said the team had started from a field camp in Kargil and wanted to fly to an army camp at altitude 18,000 feet (5,400 metres) on the glacier after two Pakistani fighters allegedly violated Indian airspace.

Details were not immediately available on the alleged incident.

Kashmir, which borders both Pakistan and China, has been disputed by New Delhi and Islamabad since the partition of the Asian sub-continent in 1947. Following three border wars, Pakistan now controls the northern third of the former princely state of Kashmir, which had joined India at partition.

The UN Military Observers' Group in India and Pakistan (UNMOGIP) has some 40 members from eight Western countries.

Natwar Singh Meets Pakistan's Yaqub Khan

BK020855 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0630 GMT 2 Oct 87

[Text] The minister of state for external affairs, Mr Natwar Singh, has had a meeting with the Pakistani foreign minister, Mr Yaqub Khan, in New York last night. The two ministers met for one-half hour and discussed bilateral and international issues. Afghanistan and India-Sri Lanka peace agreement were among the topics discussed.

Mr Natwar Singh conveyed to Mr Yaqub Khan utter surprise and disappointment over the recent statement by the Pakistani prime minister, Mr Junejo, suggesting an Indian link in the Pakistani smuggling of some nuclear material from the United States.

Congress-I Dissidents Launch 'People's Front'

BK021120 Hong Kong AFP in English 1103 GMT 2 Oct 87

[Text] New Delhi, Oct 2 (AFP)—Dissidents expelled from Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's ruling Congress (I) Party launched Friday a People's Front which its leader said would be non-political in the fight to topple the government.

The launch, announced by former Defence and Finance Minister Vishwanath Pratap Singh, came after months of wrangling about alignments with left or right opposition parties.

Mr Pratap Singh, 58, told a news conference here that his Jan Morcha (People's Front), would have "no truck with any political party."

"As the Jan Morcha is not a political party it cannot logically have a party-to-party relationship with any political party," he said.

"However on issues relating to farmers and labour, the Morcha will cooperate with the concerned front organisations of political parties," he added without elaborating.

Congress (I) dissidents led by Mr Pratap Singh, the Hindu nationalist right, centrists and the country's two communist parties have agreed that Mr Gandhi must be ousted and a mid-term poll held.

But they have disagreed on tactics, openly distrust each other, and observers have seen Mr Pratap Singh walking a tightrope between the right and left.

The Front would concentrate on organising mass movements on issues such as electoral reform, decentralisation of government decision-making and unemployment, Mr Pratap Singh said.

Ram Dhan, appointed the Front's national convenor, told a public meeting on at Mr Pratap Singh's residence here that the launch marked the "beginning of a new era in Indian history."

"We fought one battle for independence from the British under Mahatma Gandhi's leadership," Mr Ram Dhan, a member of parliament, told a few hundred cheering supporters.

"We now have to fight a second battle for independence, this time under the leadership of Vishwanath Pratap Singh, to ensure that the fruits of independence reach the poor, not just a handful of the rich," he added.

The forum's launch came on the 118th birthday of slain Indian independence hero Mohandas "Mahatma" Gandhi, observed as a national holiday.

Mr Pratap Singh said the Jan Morcha would struggle for the "extension of democratisation and to curb non-democratic influences."

"One simple question exposes the whole system we are running. Can a common man contest elections on his own resources? If the answer is no, then we have to re-examine the existing system," he said.

Sharing the platform with Mr Pratap Singh at Friday's public meeting and news conference were several prominent Congress (I) dissidents including Prime Minister Gandhi's cousin and sacked Internal Security Minister, Arun Nehru, and Moslem leader Arif Mohammed Khan, former Civil Supplies Minister.

The dissidents have called for Mr Gandhi's resignation over alleged kickbacks to government officials and ruling party politicians on a $1.3 billion military contract with the Swedish arms firm Bofors.

The People's Front would shortly launch a membership drive, the dissident leader said. Members would have to sign a pledge dedicating themselves to curbing the use of money in politics, fighting economic wrongdoers and corruption.

Members would pay 1 rupee (less than 10 U.S. cents) annually, donations to the front would not exceed 1,000 rupees (about $80) and all accounts would be audited and open for public scrutiny.

Commentary Criticizes Nonproliferation Treaty

BK051258 Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1010 GMT 5 Oct 87

[Commentary by C. Rajamohan of the Institute for Defense Studies and Analysis]

[Text] The chairman of the Indian Atomic Energy Commission, Dr M. R. Srinivasan, has strongly reiterated India's opposition to the discriminatory Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty, NPT. Speaking at the 31st annual

general conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency, the IAEA, at Vienna, Dr Srinivasan dismissed the NPT as unequal and one-sided. He pointed to the fact that the NPT gives the right to nuclear-weapon states to continue to expand their nuclear arsenal while imposing nuclear restraint on the rest of the world.

It indeed is a misnomer to call the NPT as nuclear nonproliferation treaty. It deserves to be called the nuclear proliferation treaty since it legitimizes the quantitative and qualitative proliferation of nuclear weapons. For example, in 1968, the year the NPT came into existence, the strategic nuclear arsenals of the United States and USSR had a strength of about 5,500 nuclear warheads. Today, nearly 2 decades after an alleged nuclear nonproliferation treaty, the combined strategic arsenals of the United States and USSR stand at about 22,000 nuclear warheads. This 400 percent increase in warheads is despite the promise made in the NPT that the nuclear-weapon states would strive for an early cessation of the nuclear arms race.

India was one of the active participants in the international negotiations in the 1960's which led to the creation of the NPT. India consistently argued for the drafting of a genuine nonproliferation treaty on nuclear weapons. Such a treaty would have involved the commitment of the nuclear-weapon states not to proliferate nuclear weapons and an undertaking by nonnuclear countries not to engage in new nuclear proliferation. Such a treaty could have constituted the first step in the collective global movement toward nuclear disarmament.

Instead, the sponsors of the NPT unveiled a treaty which permanently divided the world into two categories—those with nuclear weapons and those without. The NPT legitimized nuclear weapons as the currency of global power and prestige. In essence, the NPT became the instrument of nuclear apartheid with a minority of five nuclear-weapon states leading over the international community.

There was no way India could have accepted this sham nonproliferation treaty which reserved all the rights for the five nuclear-weapon states and imposed all the duties and obligations on nonnuclear states. The NPT runs counter to the essence of India's nuclear policy articulated since the very dawn of the nuclear age. The policy stands for the use of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes alone. It is strongly opposed to nuclear weapons everywhere and demands comprehensive global disarmament including the elimination of all nuclear weapons.

India also believes that all safeguards and controls over the use of nuclear energy should be universal and nondiscriminatory. Under the NPT system, all safeguards are imposed on nonnuclear countries and none on nuclear-weapon states. The NPT is the kingdom where the law-abiding citizens are under surveillance while the thugs or cheats are free to roam about.

For nearly 2 decades, the great powers of the world have failed in their attempts to force India into kneeling before the NPT. Now Pakistan, with a blessing of its mentors, is attempting to impose the NPT on India. It proposes that New Delhi and Islamabad join the NPT. India opposes the NPT because the treaty is fundamentally flawed. Pakistan has no objections to the treaty itself and is willing to sign it if India does the same.

The game is very clear—to divert attention from the real issue of Pakistan's nuclear-weapon program. India's commitment to global nuclear disarmament, to a nuclear-free world and to nondiscriminatory forms of control clearly rules out joining the much discredited NPT regime even if it is couched in regional or bilateral forms.

Official on Plants' Nuclear Power Production

BK041000 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 4 Oct 87

[Text] Three nuclear power stations in Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, and Rajasthan have been generating over 1,200 mw of power every day and efforts are on to generate 10,000 mw by the end of the century. Disclosing this to newsmen at Karwar in Karnataka, the chairman of the Nuclear Power Board, Mr S.L. Kutty, said the cost of nuclear energy per unit will be much cheaper than thermal energy by 1990.

Iran

Missile Fired at Baghdad Military Center

LD051954 Tehran IRNA in English 1951 GMT 5 Oct 87

["Thundering Missile Gives a Rude Awakening to Ba'thist Regime"—IRNA headline]

[Text] Tehran, Oct. 5, IRNA—Iran's Muslim combatants fired a surface-to-surface missile at Baghdad's higher military training center for special republic guard forces of Iraq at 22:30 hours local time (19:00 GMT) Monday as a deterrent measure against the Iraqi bombing of residential and industrial units in Iran.

In a statement released here tonight, the War Information Headquarters (WIH) described today's Iranian reprisal attack as a crushing response of the Islamic Republic to the continued Iraqi bombings.

Civilian areas of Abadan, Khorramshahr, Ziveh, Bivaran and Do Rud as well as industrial and oil installations near Tehran and in Khuzestan, Mazandaran, Lorestan, Bakhtaran, Hamedan and Ilam Provinces, have recently witnessed a spate of savage Iraqi bombardments, it added.

Noted the WIH statement that hundreds of civilians have so far been martyred and wounded and some damage inflicted on residential areas and industrial installations in the Iraqi air raids.

In case the Iraqi regime resumes its acts of mischief, the Muslim forces of Iran will continue striking at economic, industrial and military centers throughout Iraq except the four secure cities of Al-Najaf, Karbala', Al-Kazimiyah and Samarra, until Baghdad rulers repent of their vicious acts, concluded the statement.

Reprisal Attacks To Continue

LD052036 Tehran IRNA in English 2032 GMT 5 Oct 87

[Text] Tehran, Oct. 5 IRNA—Following tonight's missile attack on Baghdad, the General Command of the three forces of the Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps (IRGC) issued a statement vowing Iran's reprisal attacks will powerfully continue.

"We once again warn rulers of the criminal Baghdad regime that in case their vicious acts continue, the Muslim combatants' retaliatory operations will continue with all might and strength and military, economic and industrial centers in all Iraqi cities except the four holy cities will be subjected to the Islamic army's reprisal attacks," the statement warned.

2d Missile Fired at Baghdad

LD060340 Tehran IRNA in English 0335 GMT 6 Oct 87

[Text] Tehran, Oct. 6 IRNA—A second Iranian surface to surface missile hit the Iraq capital at 0038 hours local time today (2108 GMT Monday).

Another Iranian missile was fired at Baghdad's Higher Military Training Center of Iraq at Special Republican Guard Forces of Iraq at 2230 hours local time (1900 GMT) Monday as a deterrent measure against the Iraqi bombing of residential and industrial units in Iran.

Tehran Cites AP on Crash of U.S. Helicopter

LD051329 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 5 Oct 87

[Text] According to an AP report, a U.S. Marine helicopter crashed into the Persian Gulf during night operations last night. As a result, one of its crew was killed and three others were saved. According to this report, the Central Command of the U.S. Navy issued a statement in Washington last night announcing the crash of U.S. UH-1 helicopter. The statement pointed out: This helicopter crashed 48 km northeast of Bahrain and at a distance of 900 meters from the command ship *La Salle*. The same report indicates that investigations are in progress to find the cause of the helicopter crash.

This is the second incident of this kind since the arrival of U.S. military forces in the Persian Gulf last summer. On 30 July, an FX Sea King helicopter crashed while trying to land on the deck of the *USS La Salle*, killing four of its nine crew members.

Japan Assured of Ships' Safe Navigation

OW050643 Tokyo NHK General Television Network in Japanese 0300 GMT 5 Oct 87

[Text] Nine vessels with Japanese crews, which have been on standby since two Japanese tankers were attacked in the Persian Gulf on 30 September, will form a fleet and set sail together this evening, Japan time. Surprised by the attack on the Japanese tankers, these vessels of various shipping corporations halted their operations in the Persian Gulf and have since been on standby at various coastal areas in the Gulf.

Following contacts with the Iranian side through the Japanese Foreign Ministry, the shipping corporations received assurances from the Iranian side that Japanese ships would not be attacked, as Japan was a friendly nation. The corporations have reached a decision to form a fleet to navigate out of the Persian Gulf this evening. The fleet will comprise six ships of Japanese registry—including the *Asia Maru*, a tanker of Japan Line Ltd.—and 3 vessels of foreign registry. The ships have a total of 164 Japanese crewmen on board.

The ships will assemble in waters off Dubayy, the United Arab Emirates, and pass through the Strait of Hormuz around 2300 [1400 GMT] Japan time this evening if things go smoothly.

Musavi Terms Saudi Arabia 'Lackey' Government

LD051842 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 5 Oct 87

[Text] Today Prime Minister Mir Hoseyn Musavi gave a speech to a gathering at Qazvin's Friday prayers venue. Referring to the unity and solidarity of the Iranian nation, an example for other nations of the world, he said: The reason for the deep hostility of world arrogance toward the Iranian nation is the intransigence toward the main principles of the Islamic revolution. The superpowers have now confronted the Islamic revolution openly and in a united fashion.

Mr Musavi added: If the world's people hear the message of the revolution, the superpowers' interests throughout the world will be endangered. Therefore, by any means possible, they are trying to place their lackey governments, such as the Al Sa'ud regime, against the Islamic Republic.

The prime minister emphasized: World arrogance should know that after achieving an Islamic environment and putting an end to 2,500 years of domination by kings, the Iranian nation will not give up its Islamic principles. To achieve its goals, in addition to offering its best human resources, the Iranian nation will defend the goals of the revolution. Reciprocally, the government is also trying to respond to the people's demands that the basic slogans of the Islamic revolution be achieved and that the people served.

Referring to the religious and revolutionary characteristics of the people of Qazvin, Mr. Musavi praised their efforts in safeguarding the gains of the Islamic revolution.

At the end of his speech, the prime minister visited a Shahid school which has been built to educate the children of the martyrs, and learned about the school's activities.

Musavi Says U.S. in Critical Situation in Gulf

LD051906 Tehran IRNA in English 1845 GMT 5 Oct 87

["Premier: Massive Naval Escort for a Few Cargo Ships, Classic Show of U.S. Weakness"—IRNA headline]

[Text] Zanjan, Oct. 5, IRNA—The U.S. has stepped in a marshland, from where escape is not so easy, said Prime Minister Husayn Musavi here today, adding that Iran is capable of carrying out any operations in the Persian Gulf. "We will strongly respond to the U.S. acts of atrocity," he stressed.

Speaking to a public gathering, Musavi said Washington is facing a critical situation in the Persian Gulf as is evident from its claims of providing an escort of 70 warships, 2 aircraft carriers and war fleets of its allies for a few cargo vessels. It is a classic show of U.S. weakness, he noted.

He said the U.S. which is fast losing its political and military prestige in the world, has come up against a determined global movement which is about to spread to all countries. In a vain bid to contain the Islamic revolution Washington has stooped to dirty propaganda, Musavi said.

Noting that the U.S. seeks to portray the Islamic revolution as a failure Musavi reminded all powers that their plots have only contributed to further dignify the revolution. The world's oppressed have now realised that a resolute and independent nation can successfully stand against all powers, he added.

The Iranian nation has consolidated itself despite hardships and that is why today we are witnessing great people at all scenes including the war fronts, Musavi said.

The prime minister arrived in Qazvin this morning to break the ground for the first international Islamic university as well as the first medical college in the city of Zanjan. He returned to Tehran this afternoon.

Al-Qadhdhafi Reiterates Support for Tehran

LD041750 Tehran IRNA in English 1741 GMT 4 Oct 87

[Text] Tripoli, Oct. 4, IRNA—Libya's leader Colonel Mu'ammer al-Qadhdhafi today reiterated his country's support for the Islamic Republic of Iran against the U.S. and its reactionary puppets in the region. "Libya's stance is unchageable in this regard," he stressed.

Colonel al-Qadhdhafi made the assertion in a meeting with the Iranian Ambassador to Tripoli Mohammad Kazem Khonsari here where the two sides discussed matters of mutual interest as well as latest regional developments.

Referring to the massive and provocating presence of the U.S. and its allies in the Persian Gulf and their vicious goals, Khonsari said that Iran is fully ready to counter any imperialist plot in the region. In reply Colonel al-Qadhdhafi hailed the courageous resistance of the Iranian revolutionary nation and termed its defence for its rights as "just".

ILO Urged To Condemn Iraqi Attacks on Ships

LD041606 Tehran IRNA in English 1533 GMT 4 Oct 87

["ILO Urged To Condemn Iraqi Attacks on Commercial Vesseis"—IRNA headline]

[Text] Tehran, Oct, 4, IRNA—Muslim forces of Iran, despite their extreme patience have been forced to retaliate Iraqi mischievous acts as a deterrent measure aimed at preserving freedom of navigation in the Persian Gulf, said an Iranian official on Saturday.

Addressing the 74th International Labor meet in Geneva, Abdol Rasul Sheykhzadeh, a member of the Iranian delegation, called on the meet to strongly condemn the initiator of attacks on commercial ships and also those supporting this policy, in an effort to safeguard human values and dignity.

Elsewhere in his speech, the Iranian delegate criticized the working conditions of navigators in third world countries, noting that crises such as that of Maritime transport is the natural result of a materialistic ideology dominating this industry.

Improving the condition of the navigation work force requires committed and serious people so that positive results could be achieved for navigators, he said.

Sheykhzadeh further said that because Third World countries lack modern technology, planning and training methods as well as necessary capital in this regard, they are not able to groom their needed personnel.

He also urged the conference to seriously confront those elements which do not respect international standards and regulations concerning navigation.

Tehran on 'Confrontation' With United States
NC040818 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0330 GMT 4 Oct 87

[Commentary by Central News Unit research group entitled: "Politico-Military Confrontation With the United States"]

[Text] It has become more obvious than ever before that U.S. imperialism is opposed to any kind of Iranian political or military advantage. The increasing presence of the NATO warships in the Persian Gulf and direct threats to Iran are continuing at a time when the U.S. Government and its international and regional allies are involved in extensive efforts to exert pressure on Iran. In any case, it has long been evident that even this time their efforts will not yield the desired results. The Islamic Republic of Iran has proved to the world that the acumen and strength it has displayed in military matters and on the battlefronts can be used in the political field as well. It has been able to create doubts in the minds of the supporters of aggression and reveal certain truths that had hitherto remained partly unknown.

As a result of extensive efforts by the United States, all the members of the UN Security Council passed Resolution No 598, stipulating that in the event of th rejection of the resolution by one or both of the parties, punitive action would be taken. Myopic political observers, such as the Iraqi regime, thought that on this occasion they would again be able to portray Iran as deserving of condemnation. In the resolution, the United States and its allies hastily included points that they did not realize would backfire against them and create problems for them in the future.

In the present conditions and in view of the political dimensions of the war, the extent of Iran's strength is extremely clear. In any case, no one can ignore the importance of strong military support in a political encounter. When the imposed war began, the UN Security Council blindly insisted on a cease-fire. However, as a result of the efforts, heroism, and selflessness of the nation and the Islamic fighters, the UN Security Council has reached the point of proposing openly that the aggressor be named.

Furthermore, Iran was able to divide the UN Security Council members, especially the powerful five permanent members, splitting them into two groups. They all now speak of this reality and openly state that there is not the same unanimity in the Security Council on proclaiming punitive sanctions against Iran as there was in the past. This is because Iran has stated, through the voices of its officials and, particularly, through President Khamene'i's address at the United Nations, that it does not categorically reject the resolution. This concerted effort has brought things to the point where the PRC and the Soviet Union are opposing the blind request by the United States and Great Britain for sanctions to be imposed on Iran. In fact, Iran's diplomacy has isolated London and Washington, and Paris is also trying to refrain from expressing any strong or definite views, bearing in mind its own interests and benefits. Hence all the permanent members have been forced to postpone the proposal for the implementation of sanctions in the wake of the UN secretary general's visit, in order to create a semblance of unity in the UN Security Council.

Under the cover of this diplomacy, we have reached a situation in which, according to news sources, the UN Security Council may support a neutral commission of inquiry simultaneous with a cease-fire. These sources state that the UN Security Council has agreed to yet another of Iran's requests. However, the Iraqi regime has, through its foreign minister, conveyed its silent opposition to the setting up of a commission of inquiry, simultaneous with a cease-fire, to the Soviet Union. Now we have reached a stage where we can see how Iraq has managed to obtain its arms from the Soviet Union while, in practice, following U.S. policies. These events, the affirmation of the fact that Iran is not opposed to negotiations if it feels they will lead to acceptance of its conditions concerning the aggressor and his supporters, its continued efforts in this regard—all will prove to be great gains, deriving from Iran's strong and concerted political stance.

This stance of ours has brought the United States to the point where it had to exacerbate the situation by launching a military attack in the Persian Gulf and sinking the Iranian ship *Iran-Ajr*. In the political sphere as well, it was obliged to coerce the PRC into agreeing to a political-military embargo. In addition, it had to embark on a courtship of its allies in the region through the services of Secretary of State George Shultz, who informed the GCC foreign ministers that the majority of UN Security Council members are in favor of an arms embargo on Iran if it rejects the resolution.

These utterances are far removed from the truth, and are in fact, an indication of U.S. desires and its overt pressure on the members of the UN Security Council. However, it is clear that the United States, in view of successive diplomatic defeats in the Middle East, cannot placate anyone any further. The foreign minister of Oman, one of the GCC members, had said: All measures by the United Nations for a halt to the Iran-Iraq war should be equitably carried out as regards the parties involved. Unilateral action against one of the warring countries is doomed to failure. Furthermore, sources close to the United Nations state that UN Secretary General Perez de Cuellar will take fresh innovative measures to implemenat Resolution No 598. The sources do not rule out the possibility of another visit to Iran and Iraq. The UN Security Council has given Perez de Cuellar more time to continue his efforts.

Political circles believe that all these conditions indicate that the right climate for the United States to submit its plan against Iran to the UN Security Council has not been created. In any case, the United States finds itself in a position in which it has had to create such a climate by means of increased political pressure, particularly on the Security Council.

In the military field, the U.S. Government has endeavored to create tension in the Persian Gulf and to prove that Iran is not prepared to accept peace. The fact that it asks Iraq to refrain from attacks in the Persian Gulf is an attempt to depict itself as neutral and opposed to tension. It wishes to convey the impression that if there is any tension it is due to Iran's obduracy, for which Iraq is justified in retaliating. However, international public opinion has long since ceased to believe in professed U.S. neutrality where the imposed war is concerned. This has also boosted the international belief that Iraq is the initiator of the tension in the region. Even though the fate of Resolution No 598 has not been settled, Iraq is gripped by apprehension that an initial and hasty acceptance of the resolution may result in difficulties for it in the future. Therefore, Iran is attempting to increase tension in the region. In this way, by drawing the superpowers into the arena and by internationalizing the conflict, it hopes to shrug off some of the burden of responsibility for the war.

Meanwhile, what is important from our nation's point of view is that we are in favor of a just and durable peace and opposed to all kinds of compromise. It is only the selflessness of our young and old alike that has toppled the superpowers and deities from their pedestals in the world, forced them to listen our voice, and made them act in accordance with this voice. In addition, our Muslim people, such as our officials, believe that all political action should be backed by military support. If it is felt that the superpowers are not willing to agree to just conditions, then the only way out is to display our strength and to strike with an ironclad fist at the head of the tyrants.

Our nation—in the opinion of our highest-ranking officials and those who are aware of the trend of affairs—should maintain its readiness. It is clear that the arch Satan will not bow down to justice easily. The Islamic fighters should prepare to fight a more extensive battle and to defeat the real troublemaker, the United States. Many small groups have, with God's will, triumphed over larger groups.

Tehran Warns of 'Mighty' Retaliation
LD041422 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1104 GMT 4 Oct 87

[Station commentary]

[Text] Last night, the Navy of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps [IRGC] ended an exercise entitled "New Maneuver of Freedom," designed to heighten the combat-readiness of the Islamic fighters in their defense of the islands and oil-fields of the Persian Gulf. The 3-day exercise involved units from the IRGC Second Sea Zone, which successfully achieving their predetermined objectives, thus showing their readiness to confront moves by foreign forces.

Reports by Western news agencies indicate that having put the *USS Guadalcanal* on full alert, the Pentagon has ordered the *USS Lasalle*, which participates in escort operations for the Kuwaiti *Gas Prince* vessel, to halt its escort operations and join the *USS Guadalcanal* steaming toward the northern Persian Gulf. This is the first time that a U.S. destroyer participating in escort duties has left the escort convoy to take on new duties. The U.S. media personnel aboard the *USS Lasalle*, who reported the destroyer's change of direction, tried to convey that the U.S. forces are in a state of alert. However, political observers believe that this activity by the Pentagon stems from the increasing concern of the U.S. Ministry of War over the possible actions of the warriors of Islam.

This concern has spread even further than Pentagon officials realized. Currently a segment of U.S. politicians have been engulfed by it to the extent that Alexander Haig, the first secretary of state in Reagan's cabinet and a Republican presidential candidate, announced that the United States must not involve itself in a clash with Iran because the Iranian forces are very capable of carrying out missions.

Considering all this, the policies announced by the U.S. minister of war concerning the continued presence of U.S. forces in the region until all their goals have been achieved, and the remark that the Islamic Republic of Iran is an illogical regime which cannot be dealt with shows the hostile and aggressive intentions of the United States. Some reports by Western agencies concerning maneuvers by U.S. forces on the FRG coast in order to practice troop landings, as well as joint U.S.-Somali and U.S.-Egyptian maneuvers show that the United States to seriously opposed to the Islamic Republic of Iran.

All political, military, and economic pressures exerted against Islamic Iran can be seen as a prelude to reaching the critical state of confrontation. At the present juncture, Washington has not only employed all its resources to bring the Islamic revolution of Iran to its knees, but it is also using the Iraqi regime as a tool to implement its policies. Air attacks by Iraqi fighters against our country's industrial, labor, residential, and civilian centers, guided by data made available by Washington, are examples of pressures resulting from U.S. policies. The Iraqi regime, having found all of its false military might encapsulated in its Air Force and realizing the fact that the ground and naval forces of that country are not performing, is making efforts to impose the Washington-inspired economic pressure by mounting air attacks. However, the future will show that this approach will be

defeated by mighty retaliatory operations to be launched by Islamic fighter. Considering the domestic situation in Iraq, the real losers will be the rulers of the Baghdad regime.

Given the above, the U.S. policymakers and their agents in Iraq should bear in mind that heightened threats will not put fear in the hearts of the monotheist fighter or the resisting Muslim ummah. Furthermore, increased threats will strengthen their close ranks. On the other hand, the Islamic fighters have proved that they are fully prepared to humiliate the U.S. forces if the United States starts a confrontation, and that they consider no clash more sweet than standing against aggression by the imperialism.

Tehran on Need To Confront U.S. 'Decisively'

NC022007 Tehran Television Service in Persian 1530 GMT 2 Oct 87

[Station commentary from the "Weekly Report" feature]

[Text] Many NATO countries are now in the Persian Gulf. The United States, Britain, the Netherlands, and Belgium have prepared their warships and minesweepers. There are now 80 such ships. According to Reagan, the GCC is quietly supporting this also.

Not many people now believe that the concentration of all these forces in the Persian Gulf is just for the sake of free navigation and the transport of oil. The new efforts of America and its supporters to inflict pressure on Iran has convinced a number of analysts that the United States is trying to seize the initiative in the region from Iran, and to drive the situation to a point where Iran will be the target of pressure from all sides. Some political observers believe that by attacking the *Iran-Ajr*, the Americans actually wanted to see how Iran would react. Undoubtedly, the first question that arises is: How would Iran react in view of the presence of the U.S. military force and of its Western allies? This is what America wants to find out.

On the one hand, they are exerting political pressure to force Iran to accept the cease-fire plan with Iraq. On the other, they want to imply, in one way or other, that not accepting a cease-fire and refusing to make peace with Iraq could possibly lead to a more serious confrontation with all the Western powers. It is precisely because of this that once they see Iran waver in the least in its positions, its remarks, and, more importantly, its actions, they will conclude that the military pressure on Iran has been effective. If such a scenario were to transpire, then the possibility exists of a more serious attack on Iran. In such an event, stronger pressure would be exerted upon Iran to force it to sit down at the negotiating table.

Under such conditions, everything will depend on Iran's reaction. There are many options open to Iran. On the one hand, it could adopt a policy of keeping America in suspense, thus creating an extremely apprehensive atmosphere in the Persian Gulf which would make the Westerners there fearful of an imminent explosion. On the other hand, Iran could deliver a rapid response so that the Americans could receive the answer for their aggression. Or, again, it could act against the pro-U.S. elements in the region, namely, those who opened the way for the Westerners to enter the Persian Gulf or those who are helping them. Then again, it could concentrate everything on the war fronts with Iraq in order to strike at America's weakest point—the Iran-Iraq war.

These are all solutions, any combination of which could shape many of the future events with respect to the superpowers. However, it should be noted that the Americans should not in any way be allowed to gain the initiative in the Persian Gulf. No one doubts the fact that U.S. foreign policy has broken down since 1986 with the outset of the McFarlane scandal. This same situation continues today. Political observers believe that Reagan is doing everything possible to gain the political initiative in the last days of his presidency. This may mean everything for the Republican Party. It is within the context of this objective that they have been able to draw the Europeans—who initially had no interest whatsoever in becoming involved in a confrontation outside their borders—to the Persian Gulf. Calmly and more seriously than before, the Americans have been able to gain the support of the GCC. Therefore, they believe their chances for taking the initiative have increased. If the Americans were to take the initiative, then they could act more seriously on the domestic scene and more actively with regard to the Iran-Iraq war. However, let us see what they are doing to achieve this objective.

U.S. Defense Secretary Weinberger once said, with regard to a confrontation outside America's borders, that everything must be taken into consideration. First, the support of the Europeans should be secured. Then the opposing side's position should be understood as precisely as possible. This is an important point—knowing the position of the opposing side and its probable reaction. In its effort to gain the initiative, America is now trying to understand this, namely, how it should act toward Iran, and to convince Iran to be more willing to effect peace with Iraq; how Iran would react if America were to attack it; how effective military pressure could be with regard to Iran's hostile attitude toward America; or how Soviet-Iranian relations would develop.

It is important for the Americans to find answers to all these questions. Therefore, in each of their actions they try to deduce answers from remarks and reactions so that they can plan their next actions on this basis. Some believe that the best method to confront this is to maintain utmost deciseveness vis-a-vis America, to act in such a way that would make Iran's next step completely unpredictable. This would confuse them and thus affect their decisionmaking. It would especially render them incapable of drawing the Europeans further into a possible confrontation. The Americans should not be

able to guess what Iran's actions would be in the next phase. At the same time, the revolution's firmness and immense decisiveness must be clear. There are many ways in which America's policy in the Persian Gulf and in the Iran-Iraq war could be made to fail.

Under the present conditions, when we are nearing the 1988 U.S. presidential elections, all American parties are acting very conservatively. A serious blow against the Americans, whereby American corpses wrapped in their flags would be sent back to Washington, could force Congress to seriously oppose Reagan's decisions. American policy could be shaken by threats to a halt in oil exports from the Persian Gulf, or if U.S. interests throughout the world were attacked, because the American leadership is spending its final moments in the White House. No party wants to jeopardize its future term of office. The Democrats are now attempting to limit Reagan's actions in the Persian Gulf. America would certainly retreat if its leadership were to see Iran's decisiveness and seriousness to defend its beliefs, or if it were to feel that its presence in the Persian Gulf would actually escalate the war without affecting the Iranian revolution.

We need only to point out two things: First, we should confront the Americans seriously and decisively. Second, we should act with such expertise that the Americans would not be able to predict Iran's next actions against them.

Commentary on U.S. Floating Bases in Gulf

LD031339 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 2 Oct 87

[Text] The action of the U.S. Defense Department in using two large ships as naval bases for storing fuel and relief equipment to assist U.S. forces in the Persian Gulf is the subject of a report to which we draw your attention:

According to an IRNA report, officials of the U.S. Defense Department announced that the Pentagon has hired two large ships to use as naval bases for small minesweepers and commando groups of the United States in the Persian Gulf. According to this report, the two ships are each 120 meters long. One of them is anchored in the central sector of the Persian Gulf and the other on the Bahrain coast. The two ships are to store fuel and to provide relief for U.S. forces in the Persian Gulf.

According to officials of the U.S. Defense Department, this action is the result of the refusal of some of the Gulf littoral states to permit the setting up of necessary bases for relief operations for U.S. air and naval forces stationed in the Persian Gulf. It should be remembered that the U.S. authorities have repeatedly expressed appreciation to the regimes ruling over the Hijaz [Saudi Arabia] and Kuwait for their cooperation and supply assistance and bases given to U.S. forces for the latters' continued presence in the Persian Gulf.

According to observers of the Persian Gulf situation, the hiring of two ships by the United States and stationing them in the region was purely symbolic and the reason for this is to mislead the people of the Hijaz and Kuwait who oppose the dependence on the United States of the regimes ruling

WIH on 'New Phase of Deterrent Operations'

NC050600 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 5 Oct 87

[Text] The War Information Headquarters [WIH] issued a statement explaining the reasons behind Iran's commencement of a new phase of deterrent operations by the fighters of Islam: The Islamic Republic of Iran cannot remain silent in response to Iraq's daily attacks upon its vital interests and installations and wait for the international organizations to act. It is neither decent nor permissible to show indifference to the killing of civilians and to the destruction of their homes by the bombs and bullets of the Ba'thist Iraqi Armed Forces. Silence in the face of this crime is unacceptable.

The WIH statement also says: After the Baghdad leaders resorted to a new phase of mischief, the fighters of Islam started their limited retaliatory operations in an attempt to stop the enemy's attacks on Iran's residential areas and installations. In this phase, the deterrent operations by the fighters of Islam were aimed solely at industrial and military centers on the border and primarily on Iraqi cities with major military installations, including Basrah.

However, the Baghdad leaders are stubbornly continuing their mischiefs and their massacres of innocent people. Therefore, it is necessary that Iraq's aggressive and expansionist policies be confronted more decisively and strongly. As criminal America is directly helping the Iraqi regime by providing information on Iran's economic and labor installations, our answer to the Iraqi regime's attacks is actually an answer to American plots as well.

On this basis, the Islamic Republic of Iran has started the new phase of its retaliatory and deterrent operations. With the exception of the four safe cities, these operations are aimed at military, economic, and industrial centers in all Iraqi cities. These will continue until the enemy ends its mischiefs. The WIH repeats its warning to the Baghdad rulers to end their mischiefs and to stay clear of the revolutionary rage of the monotheistic army's combatants.

In conclusion, the WIH statement points out that the consequences and outcome of Iran's retaliatory operations will be borne solely by the Baghdad leaders.

Guards Officer on Volunteers for Gulf War

LD041647 Tehran IRNA in English 1611 GMT 4 Oct 87

[Text] Tehran, Oct. 4, IRNA—Half a million Iranian volunteers are prepared to carry out martyrdom-seeking operations in the Persian Gulf, revealed head of the Basij (mobilization) force of the Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps (IRGC) Hojjat ol-Eslam Mohammad 'Ali Rahmani here Sunday.

In an interview published by the Persian daily *Ettelaat* Sunday, Rahmani said that 16,500 resistance bases throughout the country are busy enrolling volunteers following a public mobilization, to check any possible U.S. attack.

Iran's Muslim combatants are fully prepared to confront the enemies of the Islamic revolution anywhere including at sea, because of their heroic resistance in the course of the seven-year-old Iraqi-imposed war and efforts so far made by the country to establish the 20-million-strong army.

"Iranian combatants will catch world arrogance by surprise when they carry out their martyrdom-seeking operations with resources hitherto unknown to the enemy," stressed Rahmani.

The IRGC Basij head further noted that all resistance bases along the Persian Gulf coasts have been placed on full alert in order to give a bitter lesson to any probable enemy trying to land troops there. The number of resistance bases throughout the country will increase to 20,000 this year, concluded Rahmani.

Combat Operations Against Iraq Continue

Iraqi Aircraft Shot Down in Gulf

LD051609 Tehran IRNA in English 1600 GMT 5 Oct 87

[Text] Tehran, Oct. 5, IRNA—Iranian anti-aircraft fire shot down an Iraqi warplane when enemy jets attacked some Iranian oil installations in the Persian Gulf at 12:43 hours local time (09:13 GMT) today.

Reporting the above here, the Joint Staff Command of the Armed Forces added that efforts are underway to locate the plane's pilot. Several workers were martyred and wounded and some damage was inflicted on the installations.

Meanwhile, a spokesman for the War Information Headquarters (WIH) warned that Iranian combatants will undoubtedly intensify their retaliatory operations, and will make the Iraqi regime rue its continuing acts of mischief.

Guerrillas Take 4 Bases

LD041705 Tehran IRNA in English 1636 GMT 4 Oct 87

[Text] Bakhtaran, Oct. 4, IRNA—At least 50 Iraqi troops were killed and wounded and four bases in Tappe-Gol region, in Zour town (Al-Sulaymaniyah Province) fell in the course of guerrilla operations launched by special forces of the Zafar Brigade 75 of the Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps (IRGC) and Kurdish militants recently, said Ramadan Headquarters Sunday. An Iraqi helicopter was shot down during a counter-attack by Iraqi forces a day after the attack, the headquarters added.

Kifri Police Station Destroyed

LD051033 Tehran IRNA in English 1008 GMT 5 Oct 87

[Text] Tehran, Oct, 5, IRNA—Police headquarters of the Iraqi city of Kifri, in Kirkuk Province were reported destroyed in the Zafar-2 operation launched Sunday and all its personnel killed, said a Ramadan headquarters statement Monday.

Meanwhile all administrative buildings and army headquarters of the city including the municipality, PTT [not further identified], the Kifri branch of the Rafedain bank, power station and gas stations of the city were set ablaze by explosives, it added.

300 Iraqis Killed in 'Zafar-2'

LD051038 Tehran IRNA in English 1017 GMT 5 Oct 87

[Text] Tehran, Oct 5, IRNA—Forces of the Badr 9 Division of the Iraqi Mujahideen are in full control of the Kifri, said a statement from the Ramadan Headquarters Monday. In continuation of the Zafar-2 operations launched Sunday the mujahideen also destroyed the city's textile mill and so far more than 300 of Iraqi forces are reported killed and another 500 wounded.

The mujahideen also set ablaze all economic and industrial centers of the city and seized government documents in the city, added the statement.

Kifri Governor Killed

LD051045 Tehran IRNA in English 1034 GMT 5 Oct 87

[Text] Tehran, Oct. 5, IRNA—Iraqi Muslim mujahideen of Badr-9 Division in continuation of their successful assault on Iraqi forces 70 kms deep inside Iraq, killed and wounded tens of Iraqi troops and seized their headquarters, bases and offices around the city of Kifri, Kirkuk Province.

Reports from Ramadan Headquarters said Monday that forces of Martyr Abu al-Khayr and Martyr Abu Tariq al-Bashri Battalions entered the city from two axis.

These forces in cooperation with Mujahideen of Abu al-Fadh al-'Abbas Battalion who had entered the city secretly, surrounded and destroyed security and military centers and carried out revolutionary execution of Iraqi officials.

Forces of Badr-9 Division took control of Kifri and in a hand-to hand fighting, killed governor of the city. All disciplinary forces at the Governor's Office were either killed, wounded or fled the area.

During the operations, Muslim Mujahideen seized a remarkable amount of munitions and set ablaze two 23mm artillery pieces, a number of heavy machine guns, three mortar launchers, and a number of other light and heavy anti-tank weaponry. They also seized ten military bases.

Reporters Urged To Visit Kifri

LD051226 Tehran IRNA in English 1149 GMT 5 Oct 87

[Text] Tehran, Oct. 5, IRNA—Iran's War Information Headquarters (WIH) in a statement released here Monday called on all foreign reporters and film makers to make films and file reports on Zafar-2 operations by Iraqi mujahideen in the town of Kifri, Irbil Province, Sunday.

The statement pointed out that key government buildings in Kifri and military centers including a police station, a secret police center, a garrison used by so-called popular forces, and Kifri branch of Rafedain Bank were destroyed by the Mujahideen during their occupation of the two which lasted for a few hours.

Based on the past experiences, the statement said, the Ba'thist Iraqi regime by making false film on the areas attakced by Iranian combatants, has denied the launching of any operations.

The War Information Headquarters also urged those committed reporters residing in Iraq to pressure the Baghdad Government to despatch them to Kifri so as to make film and file reports on the centers and installations destroyed in the Zafar-2 operations, and hear the facts about the attack from the inhabitants of Kifri.

Roundup of Zafar-2 Operations

LD051246 Tehran IRNA in English 1224 GMT 5 Oct 87

[Text] Tehran, Oct. 5, IRNA—At least 300 Iraqi troops were killed and about 500 others wounded in the course of Zafar-2 operations launched by Badr Division 9 of Iraqi Muslim mujahideen 70 kms. inside Iraq in Kirkuk Province Sunday, Khatem ol-Anbiya' Joint Headquarters of the Army and Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps (IRGC) reported today.

During the operations carried out in retaliation for Iraqi chemical bombardments and destruction of Kurdish villages in northern Iraq, Iraqi mujahideen destroyed government military bases in Kifri-Dagh mountain range opposite the town of Kifri, and took full control of the heights.

Khatem ol-Anbiya' said mujahideen flooded towards the town from two axes bringing under control Kifri-Al-Sulaymaniyah and Kifri-Baghdad roads as well as Kirkuk-Khanaqin-Tikrit highway and demolishing all Iraqi bases and installations in the town. The following is a brief summary of their victories.

1—Destruction of all military posts and bases on Kifri-Dagh heights and inside Kifri town.

2—Destruction of the town's governorate and killing of the governor and several high ranking officials.

3—Destruction of the police headquarters in the town with killing of all personnel.

4—Destruction of the headquarters of Ba'th Party, Kifri branch.

5—Destruction of the major part of the town's municipality, post and telegraph buildings and Rafedain Bank, Kifri branch.

6—Destruction of power generator, a petrol station and certain other buildings.

7—Destruction of a so-called popular army garrison and all its installations in the town.

8—Destruction of the headquarters of Second Battalion of Iraq's Brigade 444 stationed on Kifri-Dagh heights and Kifri town.

9—Destruction of the security organisation building in the town.

10—Destruction of a textile mill and all its installations in the town.

According to the headquarters scores of tanks and military vehicles of the Iraqi troops together with a considerable number of heavy and light weapons were set afire by mujahideen who also seized a large amount of enemy's guns and munitions.

The Iraqi mujahideen whose entrance to the town was warmly welcomed by calls of Allah-o-Akbar (God is the Greatest) of residents, collected government and Ba'th Party's documents and victoriously left the town for the bases after they had inflicted substantial casualties on the Ba'thist forces, Khatem ol-Anbiya' concluded.

Communique No 2,980

LD051641 Tehran IRNA in English 1625 GMT 5 Oct 87

[Text] Tehran, Oct. 5, IRNA—Iran's long-range artillery fire heavily shelled oil installations as well as industrial, Iraqi military and economic centers in Basra, Al-Harithah, Khanaqin, Banmil, Halawan, Badrah, Zurbatiyah, Naft-Khaneh, Mandali and Mogato [placename as received], Sunday, inflicting substantial losses. The shelling was in response to recent Iraqi bombing of Iranian residential and industrial units.

Announcing the above, the 2980th Joint Staff Communique reported here Monday that Iraqi long-range artillery fire continued shelling the southern Iranian port cities of Abadan and Khorramshahr Sunday, wounding a number of civilians and damaging several houses and shops.

Several Iraqi soldiers were killed or wounded and three enemy vehicles, 10 gun emplacements and some munitions dumps were destroyed in the southern fronts in artillery duels with Iranian forces Sunday.

In the northwestern fronts, Iranian artillery fire pounded Iraqi positions, inflicting heavy casualties on enemy troops and destroying a tank and two trucks of theirs yesterday. In Panjwin, enemy engineering units suffered considerable losses and their activities were disrupted by the artillery of the Muslim forces.

Iraqi troops also sustained several casualties and losses when an enemy vehicle column in Sumar, western sector, came under heavy Iranian artillery fire.

In the southern fronts, Iraqi engineering operations east of Basra, Khushk and Talaiyeh, were checked by Iranian combatants Sunday.

Iranian anti-aircraft fire checked reconnaissance flights of Iraqi helicopters in the southern theater of Chazabeh Sunday, repelling them completely.

Meanwhile, Navy gunboats intercepted and inspected a cargo ship in the Strait of Hormuz Sunday but allowed it to continue voyage after being satisfied it was not carrying goods for Iraq, concluded the communique.

Iraqi Attacks Damage Oil Units

LD051658 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 5 Oct 87

[Text] Today a number of Iranian oil units in the Persian Gulf were attacked by Iraqi aircraft. In addition to damages caused by those attacks, a number of our compatriots were martyred or wounded. In reference to today's attack by the Iraqi regime, spokesman of War Information Headquarters said: The fighters of Islam will undoubtedly expand their retaliatory actions and will make the Baghdad regime regret continuing its acts of mischief.

'Eco-Military Centers' Shelled

LD051705 Tehran IRNA in English 1640 GMT 5 Oct 87

[Text] Ahvaz, Khuzestan Prov., Oct. 5, IRNA—Iranian long-range artillery fire heavily shelled Iraqi eco-military centers in Basra Province, southern Iraq Monday as hit-backs against Recent Iraqi mischievous acts.

Al-Harithah power plant, Abu al-Khasib petrochemical complex, T.V. relay pylons, a paper factory, railway depots and port facilities of Basra, Muhammad Qasim garrison, Umm Qasr naval base and pier suffered heavy losses in the Iranian reprisal shelling. Heavy smoke could be seen from a long distant billowing skywards from shelled installation.

2d Iraqi Jet Said Downed

LD061044 Tehran IRNA in English 1039 GMT 6 Oct 87

[Text] Tehran, Oct. 6, IRNA—Another Iraqi jet fighter was downed at the southern waters at 12.47 Monday (09.17 hours GMT), a press release of the Joint Staff Command of the Armed Forces here said today. The plane, the second Iraqi plane downed Monday, was on a mission to strike southern Iranian oil facilities which was shot down by the air-defence units, it added.

Pakistan

Loss of Any Siachen Area to India Denied

BK051650 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 5 Oct 87

[Text] Rana Naim Mahmud, the minister of state for defense, assured the National Assembly today that the present government is taking all necessary steps to meet the needs of the three armed forces of the country. Replying to points raised by members during a debate on [name indistinct] motion regarding the purchase of frigates by Pakistan at the 5 October morning session, he said 5-year, 10-year, and 15-year programs have been prepared for the modernization of the armed forces and that these programs are being reviewed at the highest level.

The minister of state for defense said the present naval fleet is being equipped with modern weapons and every possible step is being taken by the government to strengthen national defense. He disclosed that the government has not yet made any decision regarding the type of frigate to purchase and said that all caution will be taken while finalizing the deal. Apart from the mover of the motion, other members—Gauhar Ayub Khan, Liaqat Baluch, Dr Shafiq Chaudhary, Mohammad

Usman Ramz, Sheikh Rashid Ahmad, and Haji Mohammad Yaqub Khan—also spoke on the motion, calling upon the government to pay immediate attention to modernizing the navy, as it is essential for free shipping.

The National Assembly session ruled out of order identical adjournment motions on India-Pakistan clashes in Siachen area. Opposing the motions, Minister of State for Defense Rana Naim Mahmud assured the members that Pakistan has not lost any area but, in fact, has gained some in these clashes. He denied that fighting continues in the Siachen area, but added that the enemy is conducting aggressive maneuvers. He emphasized that Pakistan reserves the right of self-defense and will take every possible action when its boundaries are threatened. Referring to the danger of soldiers' limbs becoming frozen due to the cold in Siachen, the minister of defense assured the members that the officers and men deployed in the area have been provided with the clothing and foodstuffs most suitable for the weather there and all other facilities there are of a very high standard to protect them from the cold.

President on U.S. Aid Cutoff, Nuclear Arms

NC061107 Istanbul CUMHURIYET in Turkish 4 Oct 87 p 10

["Exclusive" interview with President Ziaul Haq by Turkish reporters in Rawalpindi prior to his departure to Turkey; date not given]

[Text] [Reporter] The most important subject in Pakistan at present is the U.S. attack on Pakistan's nuclear program. What do you expect from the U.S. Administration and Congress?

[Ziaul Haq] Pakistan built its first nuclear reactor in Karachi with Canadian assistance. The Pakistani scientists working in the Western countries have been returning to their homeland ever since. Nuclear technology is a sword which cuts both ways. It can inflict wounds, but it can also be used for defensive purposes. Pakistan has decided to use nuclear technology for peaceful purposes. The number of nuclear powers is limited. In view of this, they do not wish to allow a developing country to possess such power.

In all of South Asia, only Pakistan and India possess nuclear technology at a meaningful level. Due to the fact that India is more economically developed, the United States and the other developed countries wish to benefit from its market potential. On the other hand, Pakistan is small. Nevertheless, it has strategic importance. As far as the region's security is concerned, Pakistan has become an important contact for the United States. That is why they do not wish to upset Pakistan. Nevertheless, India is still treated in a different way. Due to the fact that Pakistan is an Islamic country, they are afraid that nuclear technology will spread throughout the Islamic world. Although Israel possesses the same technology, they maintain that that country is small. This state of affairs has created a number of problems between Pakistan and the United States on other matters as well.

The powerful Jewish lobby in the United States has been working against Pakistan. For this reason, the U.S. aid program has been suspended temporarily. However, Pakistan is an independent country. It must not be subjected to international pressure. Furthermore, as far as moral ethics are concerned, it would be wrong for a country to have "double standards" in its policy. Pakistan has not signed the agreement which prevents the proliferation of nuclear arms because India has not done so. Nor has that country agreed to have its installations controlled.

[Reporter] How will Pakistan be affected by the suspension of the U.S. aid program?

[Ziaul Haq] The U.S. economic aid program and the U.S. military sales to Pakistan are important. However, Pakistan can do nothing if the United States decies to halt its aid program. God willing, we shall continue to exist by ourselves.

[Reporter] There have been reports that a firm in Turkey has sold electronic equipment to Pakistan used for enriching uranium and that the United States has applied pressure on Turkey to prevent the sale of such equipment. Are Turkey and Pakistan cooperating on the manufacture of a nuclear bomb?

[Ziaul Haq] I have said in that past that we are not manufacturing a bomb. We are using nuclear technology for peaceful purposes. It is true that Pakistan and Turkey have good relations. However, the two countries are not cooperating on the manufacature of a bomb. The Jewish lobby is probably behind such reports. They wish to destroy Pakistan. Such reports are spread by those who do not favor the friendship which exists between Pakistan and Turkey. We cooperated with a number of countries during the initial years of our nuclear technology prgoram. However, Pakistan is now carefully avoiding any move that may produce an inappropriate result—an outcome which Pakistan may be forced to conceal.

[Reporter] What is your opinion about the claims that former Prime Minister Zualfiqar Ali Bhutto suggested Pakistani-Turkish cooperation for the manufacature of a nuclear bomb in 1974?

[Ziaul Haq] I have heard nothing about this. I do not believe a suggestion was made in that regard. The claims must be politically motivated.

[Reporter] Detente has been established between the two superpowers. Do you believe that the U.S.-Soviet agreement in principle on the removal of intermediate-range missiles would strengthen the possibility of an agreement on the question of Afghanistan?

[Ziaul Haq] The Soviet Union made a great mistake in occupying Afghanistan. The mistake was done before the Gorbachev era. Obviously, Mikhail Gorbachev agreed that a mistake was made. Gorbachev is a sophisticated person. Thanks to the atmosphere he created for dialogue, the United States and the Soviet Union have been able to reach an agreement in principle for the removal of nuclear missiles. The question of Afghanistan was also discussed during the talks. Moscow wishes to withdraw its forces from Afghanistan. However, the main problem will come up after the withdrawal of Soviet troops. The Afghan people must decide what type of regime they want in Afghanistan after the Soviet withdrawal. International guarantees must be drawn up to prevent interference in Afghanistan's internal affairs. Progress has been made in the Geneva talks on the timetable related to the Soviet withdrawal from Afghanistan. However, an agreement has not yet been reached. The withdrawal of the Soviet troops is a must.

[Reporter] Kabul has been held responsible for the recent terrorist acts in Pakistan. Could you explain the measures you plan to put into effect against terrorism?

[Ziaul Haq] Unfortunately, we shall have to learn to live with terrorism. The people of Pakistan must benefit from the experience Turkey has gained in its struggle against terrorism. I shall discuss this matter with President Evren during my stay in Turkey. Turkey has successfully destroyed terrorism. Pakistan must benefit from Turkey's experience in that regard.

[Reporter] The Greek Cypriot administration has asked the UN General Assembly for help on the Cyprus problem after a 3-year period. Do you believe that placing the Cyprus question on an international platform will be useful?

[Ziaul Haq] Brother Denktas has supported UN Secretary General Perez de Cuellar's suggestions on the Cyprus question. The Greek Cypriot side has rejected them. If Perez de Cuellar's effort is successful, then I believe that the settlement of the Cyprus problem will go in the direction supported by the Turkish Cypriots. I do not believe that an international conference will be useful. A problem debated at an international conference is lost.

[Reporter] Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus [TRNC] President Rauf Denktas has said that the TRNC's status should be strengthened if the Greek Cypriot side maintains its irreconcilable attitude. How can you contribute toward such an eventuality?

[Ziaul Haq] If a request is made, then Pakistan will be the first country to recognize the TRNC.

Kabul Said Supplying Weapons for Subversion

BK061059 Karachi Overseas Service in English 0800 GMT 6 Oct 87

[Text] The National Assembly was informed this morning that the government has received reports regarding the supply of missiles and other weapons by the Kabul regime to subversive elements in Pakistan. The foreign minister, Sahabzada Yaqub Khan, in a written reply to the question, told the House that supply of weapons to agents of the Kabul regime as well as bomb explosions are tactics that are being employed by the Kabul regime to coerce the government into abandoning its principled policy on Afghanistan.

He assured the House that concerned agencies have taken all possible measures to assess the factual situation and are fully capable of dealing with subversion. The minister of state for interior, Raja Nadir Parvez, informed the House that 256 explosions took place in various parts of the country from 1st January to 15th of July this year; 138 criminals were apprehended. Eight of them have been [word indistinct] in courts while investigation is in progress.

Sri Lanka

President Tells Indian Troops To Act or Leave

BK051204 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 5 Oct 87

[Text] President J.R. Jayewardene yesterday directed India's head of the Southern Command and Indian Peacekeeping Force [IPKF] in Sri Lanka, General Deepender Singh, to work in cooperation with General Cyril Ranatunge, commander of Sri Lanka's military command, to restore law and order immediately in the Trincomalee town and district.

Presiding over a high level conference at the president's house yesterday, Mr Jayewardene said that he felt the Government of India was not meeting their part of the agreement with regard to the military assistance on the ground in Sri Lanka and particularly in Trincomalee, where law and order has broken down. He pointed out that the Sri Lankan Government has carried out their part of the agreement in full. While Sri Lankan forces are in the barracks according to the agreement, the Indian Peacekeeping Force was also in the barracks. However, according to the agreement the IPKF should suppress hostilities and enforce their cessation.

Mr Jayewardene said that IPKF was under his direction and General Deepender Singh and his subordinates should carry out his directions and command the forces under him to do so. The president said that the IPKF has been invited by him to implement the agreement and give such military assistance as and when the Sri Lanka Government wants it.

General Deepender Singh accepted this position and said that he, together with the Sri Lankan security chief, will fly to Trincomalee immediately and will see that the action of the Government of India as promised with regard to military assistance would be carried out.

The president said there had been some breakdown in cooperation between the two governments in regard to this part of the agreement and that the Indian Government should rectify this. He said he is directing General Deepender Singh to cooperate with the joint operations commander, General Cyril Ranatunge.

The conference at the president's house was attended by General Deepender Singh, who commands a million troops [as heard], including the 8,000 at present in Sri Lanka, as head of the Indian Army's Southern Command; the service chief, General Cyril Ranatunge; Inspector General of Police Cyril Herath; and the deputy Indian high commissioner, Nirupam Sen. The minister of national security, Lalith Athulathmudali, was also present.

The president explained to those present the role of the IPKF under the Indo-Sri Lanka Agreement. The peacekeeping force, Mr Jayewardene said, was meant to accord military assistance to the Government of Sri Lanka to implement the proposals in the agreement and to help the Government of India to cooperate in its implementation. The Government of India has further underwritten and guaranteed the resolution in this agreement and cooperation and implementation of these proposals.

The president stressed that if the IPKF did not cooperate in restoring law and order immediately in Trincomalee town and the district, he will direct the IPKF to withdraw from the area and the Sri Lankan security services and the police will handle the task of restoring law and order. The (?communique) by the presidential Secretariat was released to the media at a news conference.

Reportage on LTTE, Tamil Group Activities

Buddhist Monk Killed

BK051224 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 5 Oct 87

[Text] The venerable (Shabrama Lankara), thera [Buddhist monk] of the (Chalnadi) temple in Trincomalee, has been murdered while he was performing satyagraha in front of this temple. According to *Lanka Puwath*, the government knows that the LTTE terrorists shot him. From the language spoken it was clear that it was a member of the LTTE and not any other who was responsible for the murder.

LTTE, JVP Link Up

BK051246 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 5 Oct 87

[Text] The LTTE and the [word indistinct] JVP [Janata Vimukthi Peramuna] are now working in collusion in Trincomalee to destabilize the law and order situation in the country. A government spokesman told *Lanka Puwath* that according to an intelligence report it has been confirmed that the LTTE and JVP have joined hands with a view to sabotaging the peace accord. The JVP was largely responsible for violence in the south which followed the peace agreement. JVP subversives have also murdered several supporters of the agreement.

12 LTTE Men Commit Suicide

BK051624 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 5 Oct 87

[Text] Twelve LTTE supporters have died after they consumed cyanide pills while in the custody of the Sri Lankan Armed Forces. According to information received in New Delhi this evening, 17 LTTE supporters who were detained in the Northern Province by the Sri Lankan Armed Forces had attempted to commit suicide. The dead include LTTE leaders Mr Kumarappan and Mr Pulendran. The suicide attempt was made when the militants were being transferred by the Sri Lankan authorities to an aircraft for flying them to Colombo.

An official spokesman said in New Delhi this evening that the Indian high commissioner to Sri Lanka had earlier taken up the question of the detention of the militants with the Sri Lankan authorities. He said the Government of India deeply regrets this incident resulting in the tragic loss of human lives when discussions were still continuing with the Sri Lankan authorities.

'Direct Action' Threatened

BK051630 Hong Kong AFP in English 1620 GMT 5 Oct 87

[Text] New Delhi, Oct 5 (AFP)—A Sri Lankan Tamil militant group has threatened direct action unless all the separatist factions are represented on a proposed interim administration council, the *Press Trust of India* (PTI) said Monday.

The Tamil Eelam Liberation Organisation issued a press release in Madras appealing to New Delhi and Colombo to allow representatives of all the militant groups on the council that is due to govern Sri Lanka's Northern and Eastern Provinces under a July 29 peace accord, PTI said.

Unless the demand is met, all militant Tamil groups except the biggest, the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) and its ally, the Eelam Revolutionary Organisation of Students, will launch direct action, the release was quoted as saying.

Sri Lankan President Junius Jayewardene has named seven LTTE members for the 12-strong council. Of the remaining seats, two each are given to the moderate Tamil United Liberation Front (TULF) and the majority Sinhalese community and one to Moslems. None of the other five Tamil militant groups have been given representation.

8 Soldiers Murdered

BK061136 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 6 Oct 87

[Text] A senior police official told *Lanka Puwath* today that eight soldiers of the Sri Lanka Army held captive by the LTTE terrorists have been murdered by the LTTE and that their bodies were dumped this morning at the Jaffna bus station. He said that the LTTE had informed the Indian Peacekeeping Force of the murders. The soldiers were captured earlier this year during terrorists' attack on security establishments in Jaffna.

Police said that the LTTE killings were in reprisal for the arrest of the 17 hard-core terrorists who were apprehended on the high seas last Saturday by a Sri Lankan naval gunboat. They were transporting a large cache of arms and ammunition in a trawler with guns mounted on it to the east coast of Sri Lanka. All 17 later swallowed cyanide capsules and 12 are reported dead. The dead included Pulendran and Pallida of the Kituluttuwa bus massacre and Kumarappan, an LTTE leader in Jaffna. The other five have been given stomach washes and were reported to have survived.

The suicides of the 12 LTTE terrorists were followed by attacks on Sri Lankan Army camps at Point Pedro and Tondaimanar. Four policemen were killed by the terrorists and four soldiers wounded in Jaffna.

Latest security reports received by *Lanka Puwath* state that the general manager and the deputy general manager of the Kankesanthurai cement factory were shot dead last night by LTTE terrorists. Their bodies were found lying outside the factory. A film crew of the National Television Corporation is also reported missing in Jaffna.

Premadasa Leaves for New York, UK, Thailand

BK021136 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 2 Oct 87

[Text] Prime Minister R. Premadasa left the island in the early hours of today to participate in the World Habitat Day activities at the United Nations. Among those present at the airport were the minister of textile industries, Wijepala Mendis, the minister of home affairs, K.W. Devanayagam, and the deputy minister of local government, housing, and construction, S.W. Alawathuwela.

The prime minister is also scheduled to address the special session of the UN on the International Year of Shelter for the Homeless. On his way back he will visit Britain and Thailand. The prime minister was accompanied by Mrs Hema Premadasa and secretary to the prime minister, K.H.J. Wijedasa.

MP Criticizes Government on Indian Troops

BK061157 Colombo SUN in English 26 Sep 87 p 11

[Speech by Lakshman Jayakody, member of Parliament from Attanagalla, during 24 September debate on continuing the state of emergency]

[Text] It was reported in the *Sun* that Indian troops had killed one Sri Lankan and injured 20. This is the first time that foreign troops have shot our own countrymen on our own soil. The Mannar shooting coincided with the visit of the Indian high commissioner, Mr Dixit. One could now predict from this situation alone the future of the so-called peace accord.

There are various kinds of opposition to the accord. There is opposition within the government itself where we understand that 12 ministers have written to the president requesting clarification of certain matters of the accord. There is opposition between the Tamils and Tamils, between the Tamils and Indian troops. There is also opposition between the Muslims and Tamils on the subject of devolution. Fighting and problems have erupted between the government and Sinhalese people. This is due to the oppression and suppression of the people. The accord has become an apple of discord. The government should find out the reasons why this is so. The problem is that priority has been given to the problems of India over national interests.

The amalgamation of the north and east has created opposition. The provincial councils itself [as published] will create a formidable amount of problems. If it is enacted, certain powers that will be given to the councils will not be subject to repeal by the Parliament of this country.

In the accord the government has made certain promises. It was said that bus and train operations between Jaffna and Colombo would be resumed. The ferry services would commence, police stations would be opened. Have these things happened? What is the role of the Indian troops? Are we paying them? Should we then look upon them as mercenaries? We are totally opposed to this.

In the north, Indian currency is being circulated for buying goods. If that is so, then it is totally illegal. This has to be done through our own currency and monetary laws. You promised you would remove the emergency. This has not happened yet.

All these promises, what has happened to them? A cessation of hostilities was promised. Nevertheless there was a shooting yesterday. A giving up of arms by the terrorists was promised. However they are waging war at this moment with their own arms. The Army would be confined to their barracks, it was said. This has not been done. I saw in the papers that Prabhakaran is still a wanted man. But Mr Dixit is continuously having talks with him. Why cannot you prevail on India to hand him over to the government?

There has to be a certain amount of accuracy in what you do. Otherwise, the accord will become a mockery of itself. It will definitely build up antigovernment sentiment and if action is not taken, the bottle of sentiment will certainly explode.

The price of food is soaring, unemployment has risen to 5.3 percent. Is it correct that you are thinking of moving 5,000 Sri Lankan troops to establish camps there? We would like to have more details on this.

The BBC said today that anarchy has set in in the north and the east. What has happened to the investigations on the Parliament grenade attack? We understand that 30,000 more Indian troops might come into Sri Lanka.

The government has to reply in detail to all these questions. To my mind, peace has certainly not come to this country despite the much lauded peace accord.

Parliament Member Quits Over 'Ethnic Conflict'
BK060948 Colombo SUN in English 26 Sep 87 p 1

[Text] MP for Ratgama Asoka Somaratne making his farewell speech in Parliament yesterday said that he was resigning from his seat in Parliament because he was unable to follow the policies adopted by the UNP on the ethnic problem.

"I cannot fulfill my responsibilities in accordance with my conscience and I am unable to follow the policies of the UNP on the ethnic conflict. This is why I am resigning from my post," Mr Somaratne said.

Mr Somaratne, who is the first member of Parliament to resign since the signing of the peace accord, stated that it was believed peace would return to the country after the signing of the agreement, but this has not happened yet.

"India is violating all our civil laws" he charged. "I am sorry to say that during the past ten years, all the steps taken by the leadership to solve the ethnic conflict have failed," he added.

Mr Somaratne said that the present situation in the country is very unfortunate. "In 1977 the country was very independent. We had an independent foreign policy, we did not have to consult a foreign nation to adopt any policy," he said. He accused India of making use of Sri Lanka's ethnic problem to have a hand in the developments in Sri Lanka. He said the Indian troops are here and that it was very unlikely that they will leave in the near future.

Mr Somaratne added that when the Dutch were brought to Sri Lanka to get rid of the Portuguese, they took 200 years to leave the country. "We have lost our independence, sovereignty and integrity. We are not free anymore," he said.

Mr Somaratne said that the signing of a peace agreement between leaders of two countries cannot solve problems. "We have to win the confidence of the Tamil people. For ten long years we have done nothing to win the confidence of the Tamil people," he said.

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